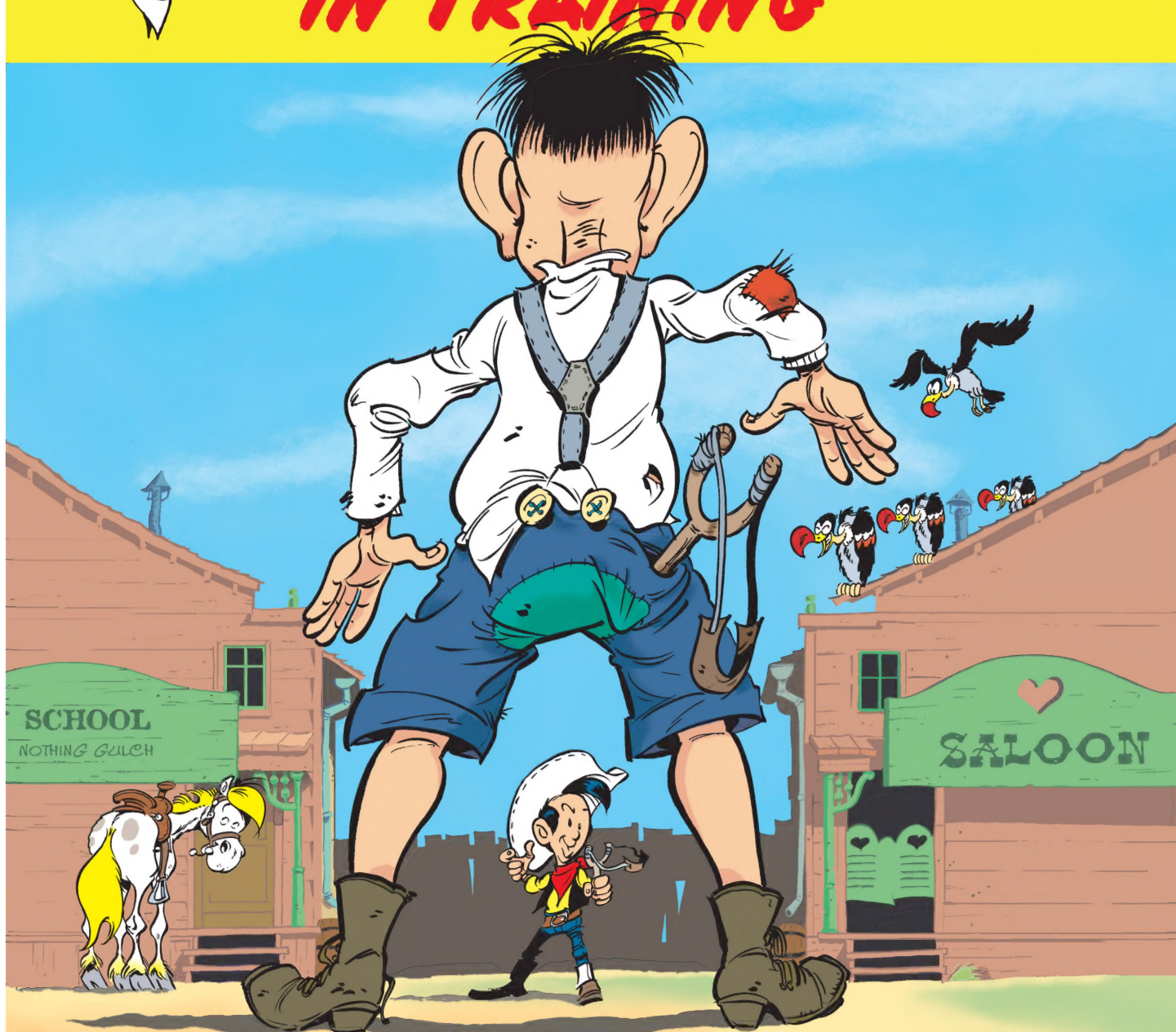


THE ADVENTURES OF  
**KID LUCKY**  
BASED ON THE CHARACTERS OF MORRIS



# COWBOY IN TRAINING



Europe  
COMICS

*Schodé -*

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# COWBOY IN TRAINING

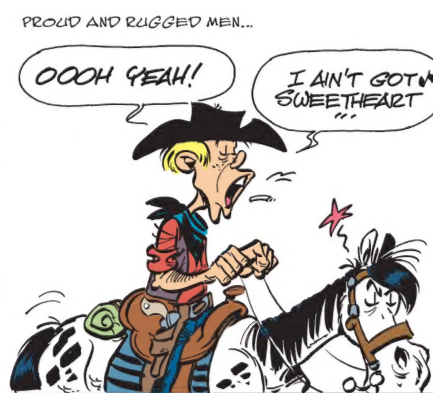
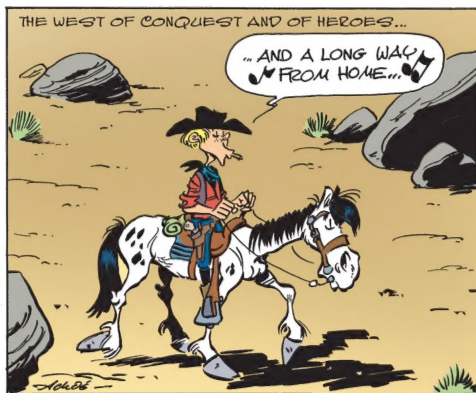
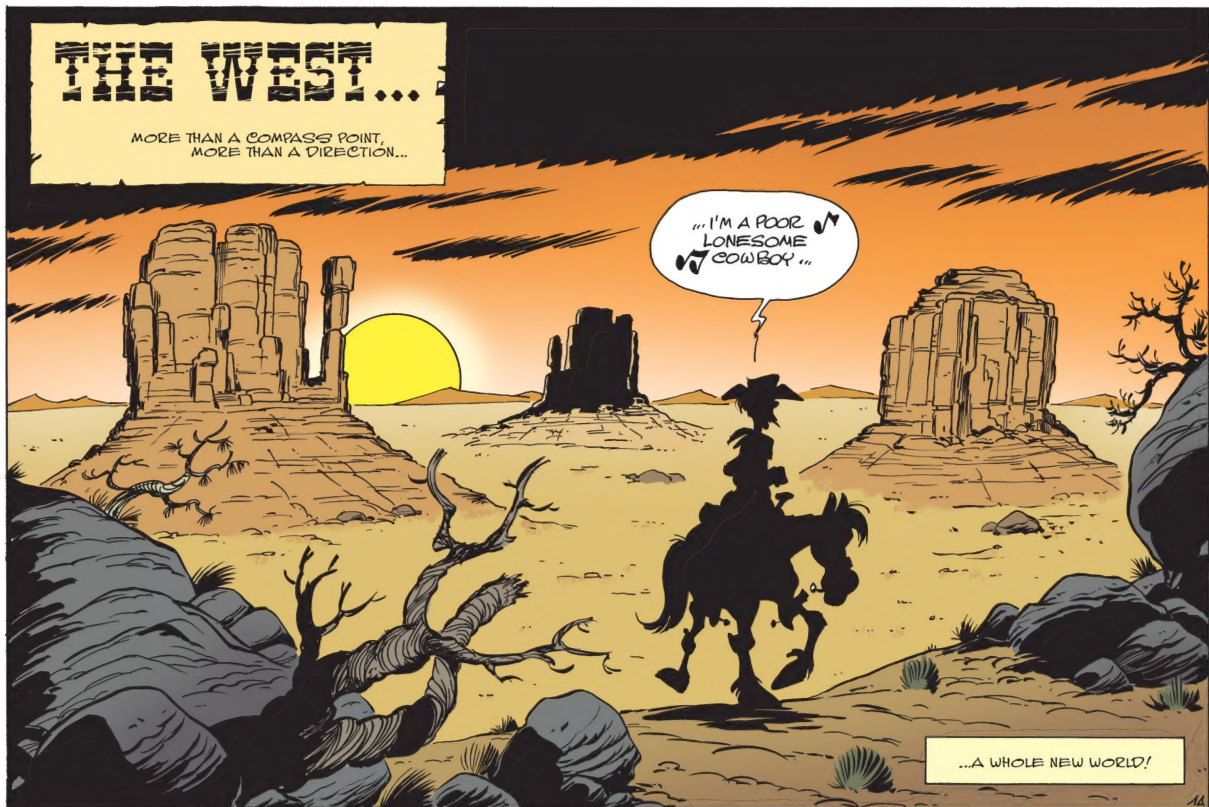
Writer and artist: ACHDÉ



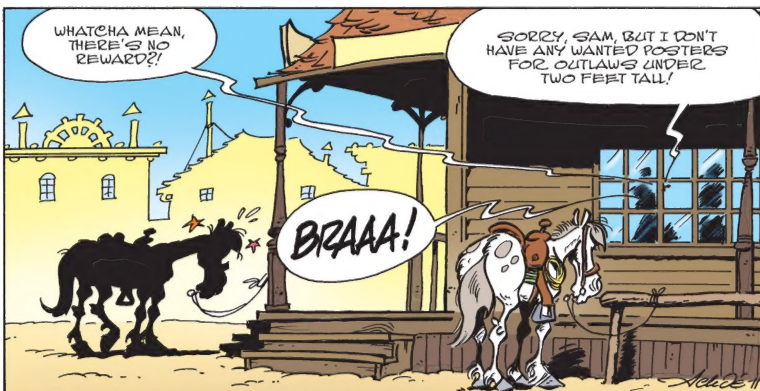
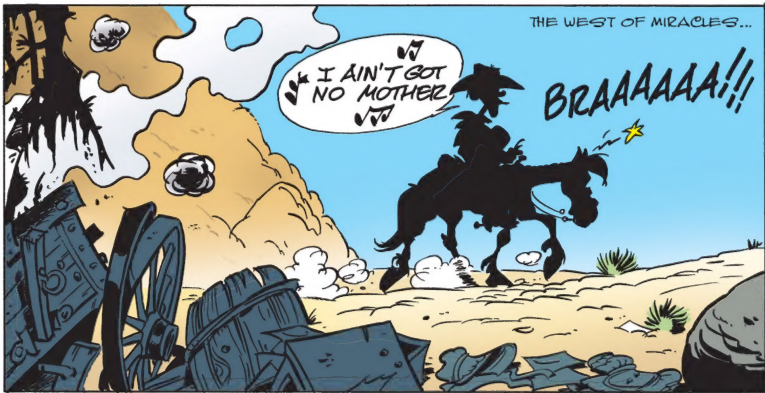
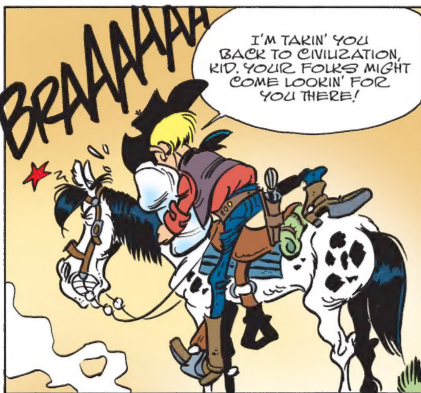
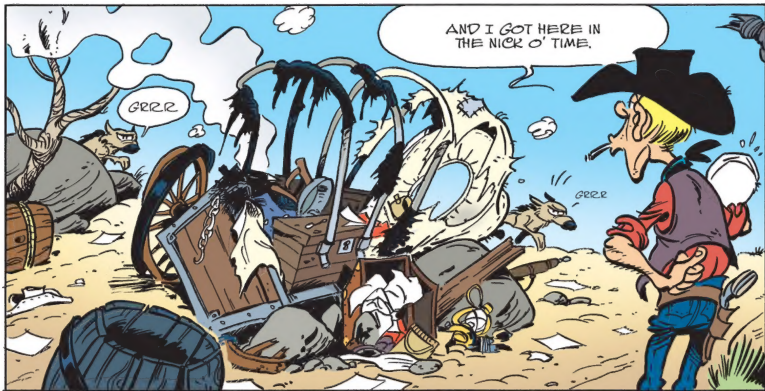
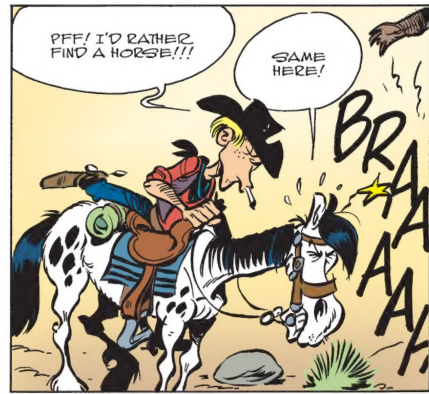
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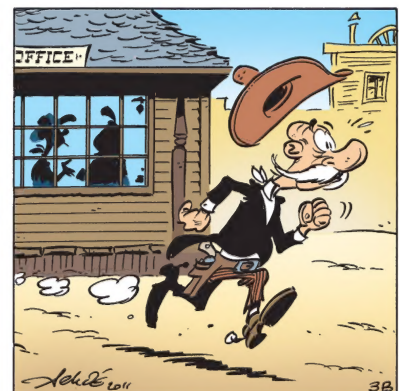
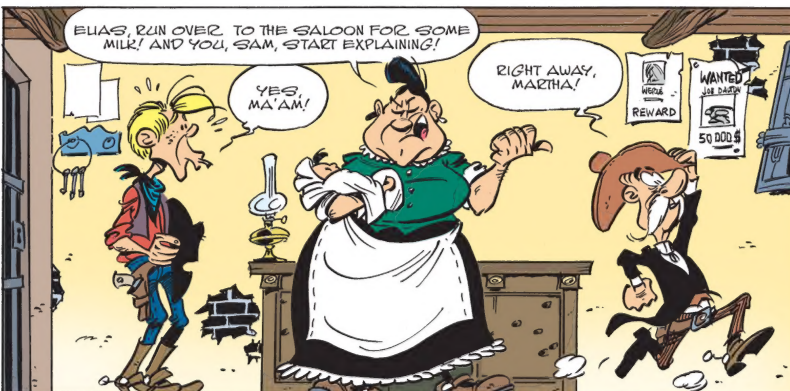
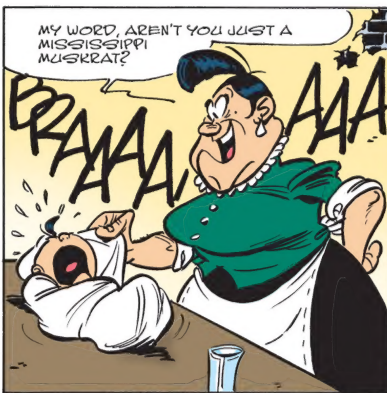
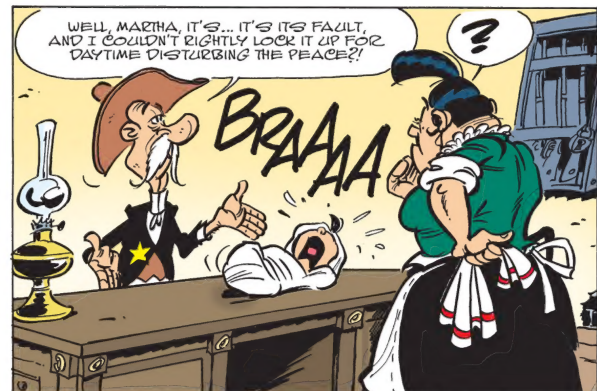
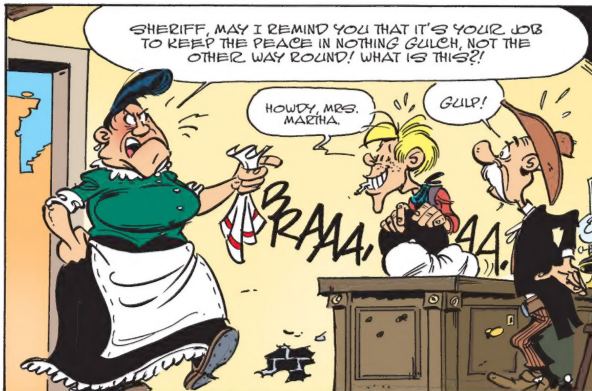
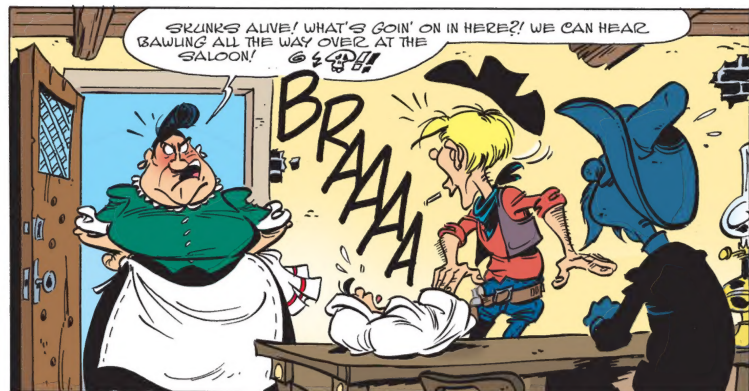
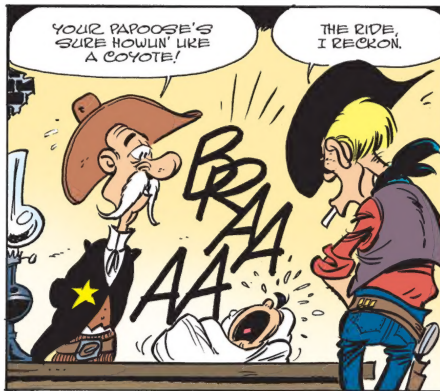








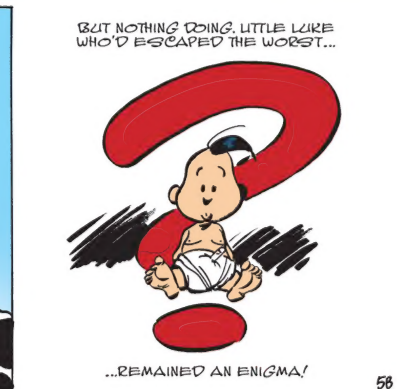
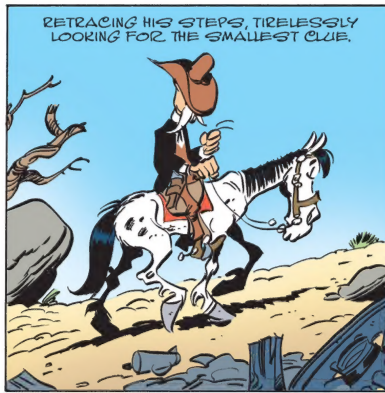
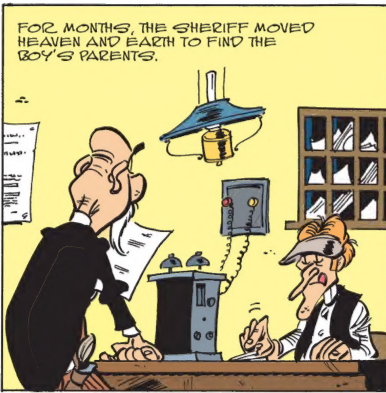
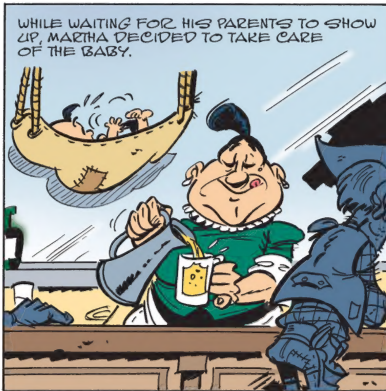
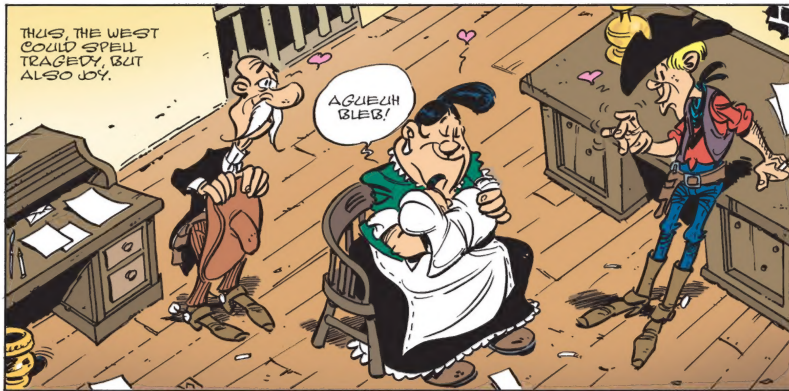




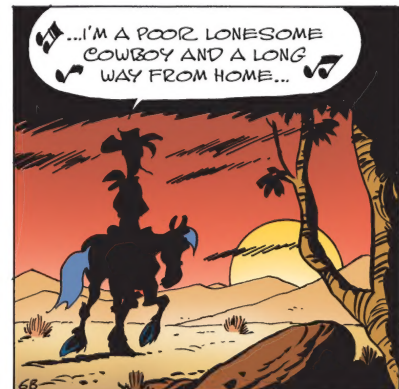
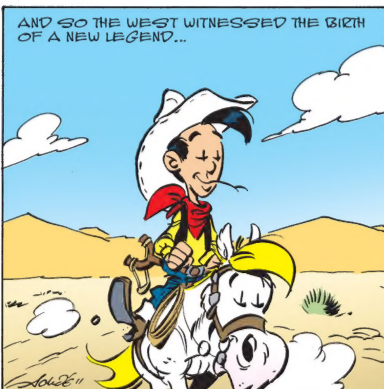
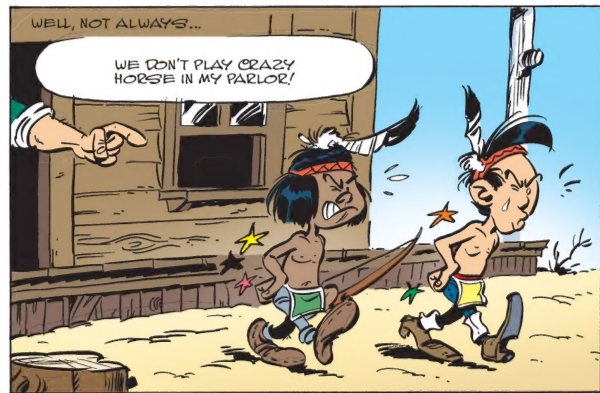
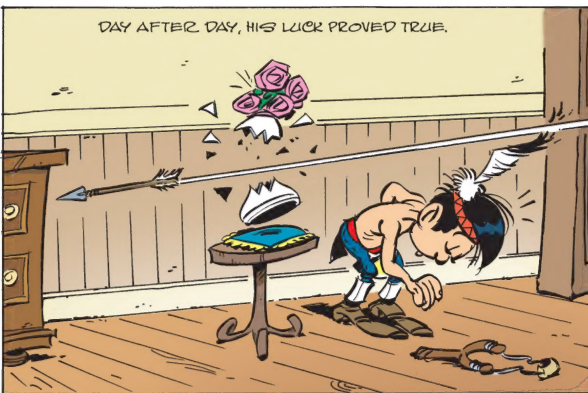
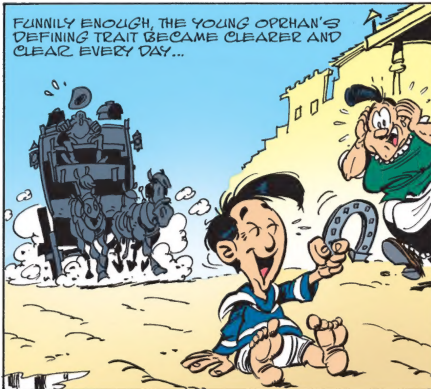
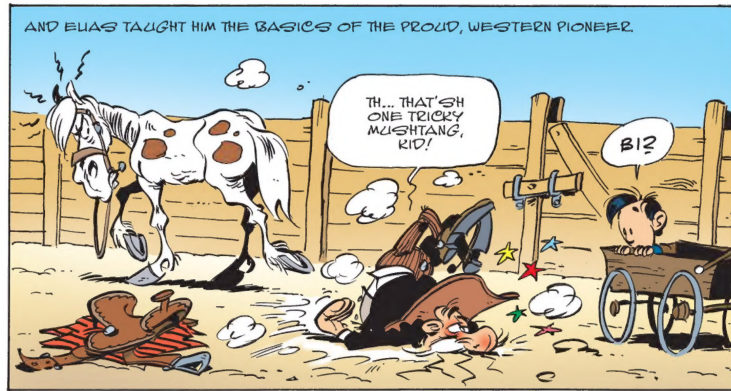
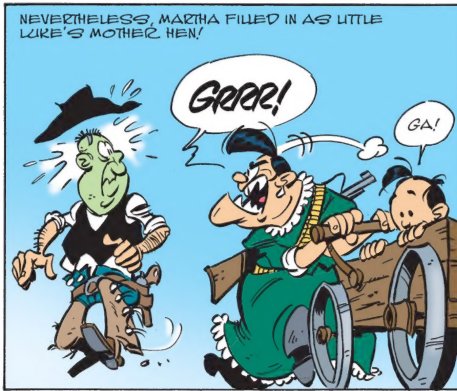










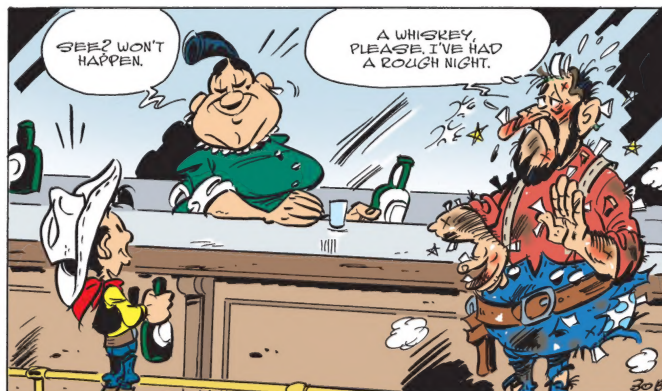
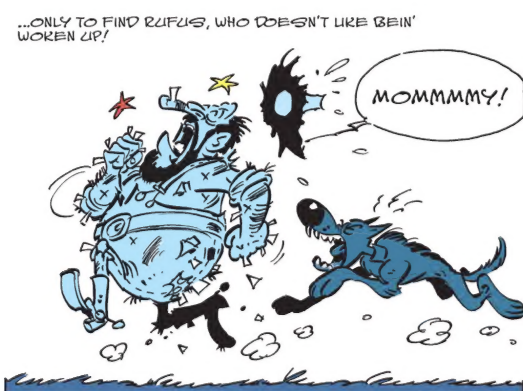
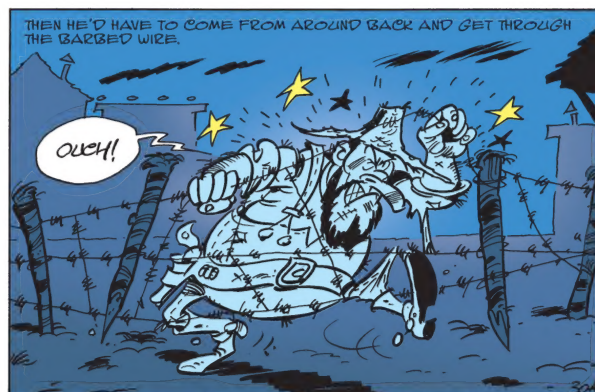






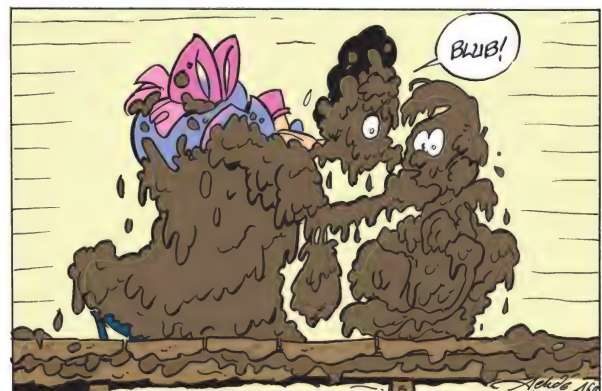
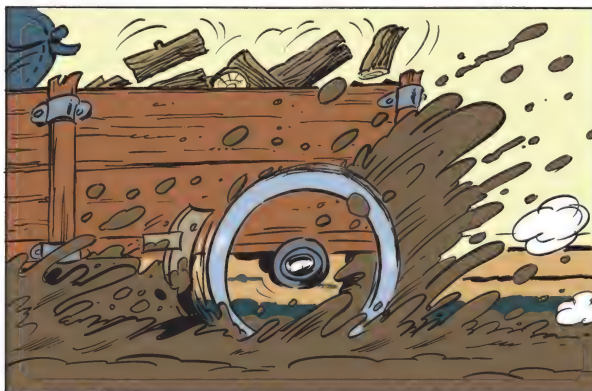
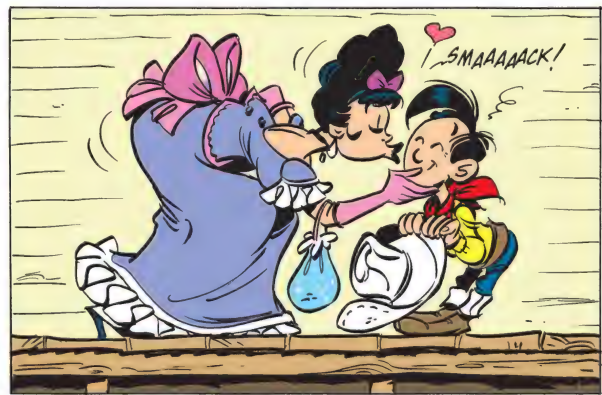
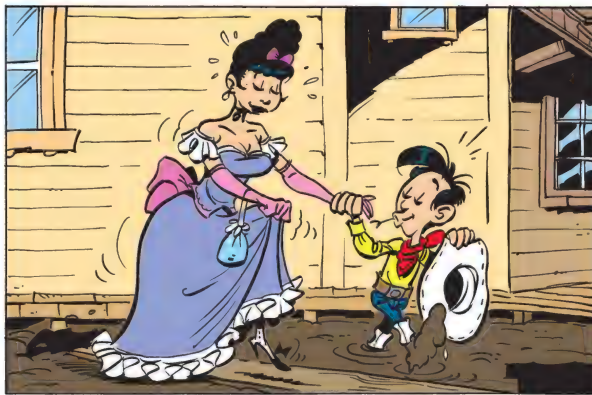
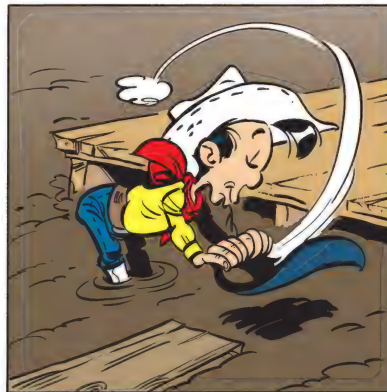
Would you believe? In 1800, there were more than fifty million buffalo in North America. A century later, the white man had nearly caused their extinction.





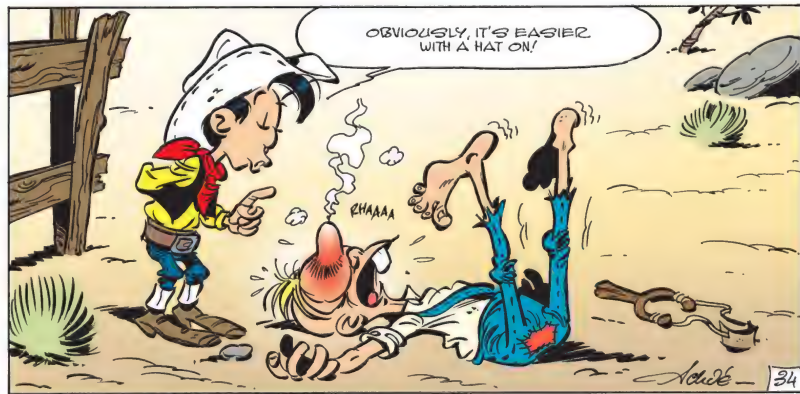
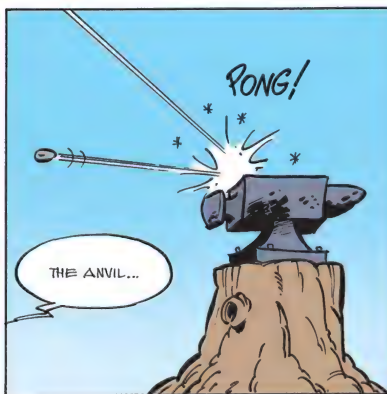
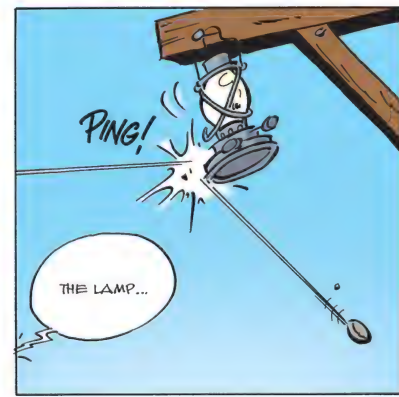
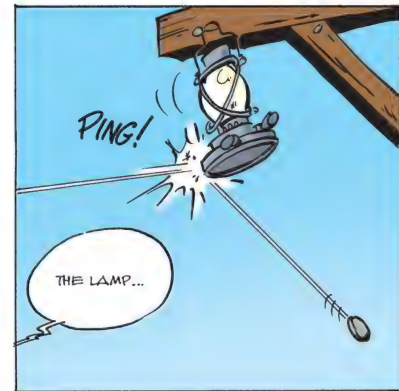
Would you believe? The West had its own particular idea of justice: horse thieves were hanged, but a murder resulting from a duel wasn't even prosecuted.





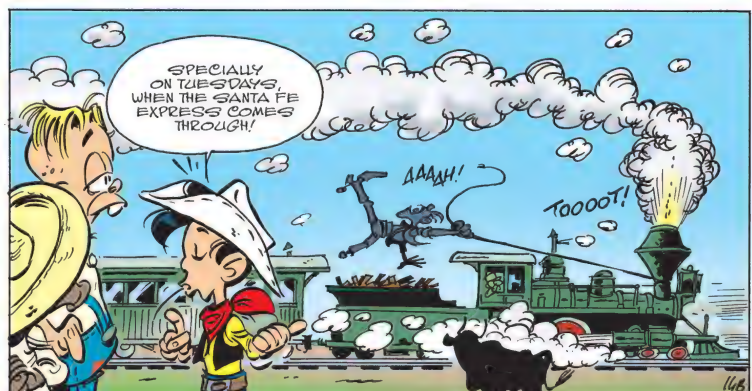
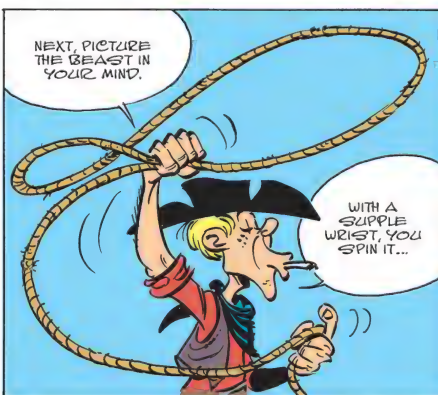
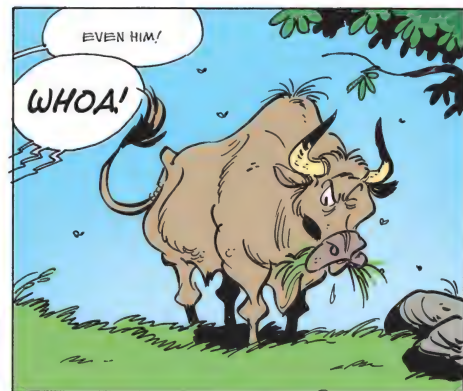
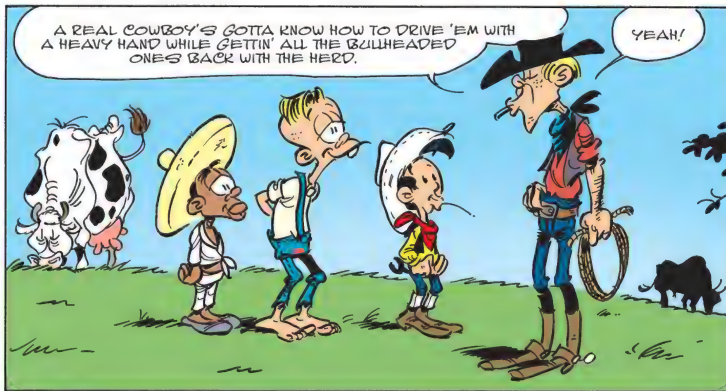
Would you believe? During the rainy season, towns in the West became expanses of mud! Carpenters made a fortune building makeshift bridges for the streets.





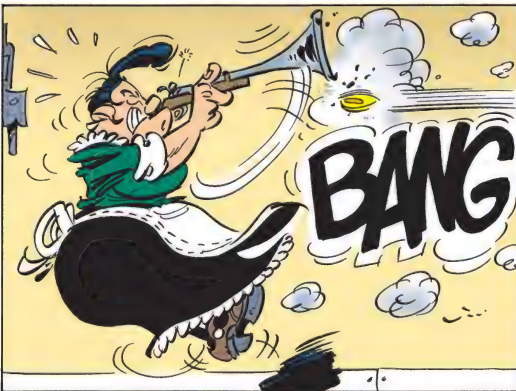
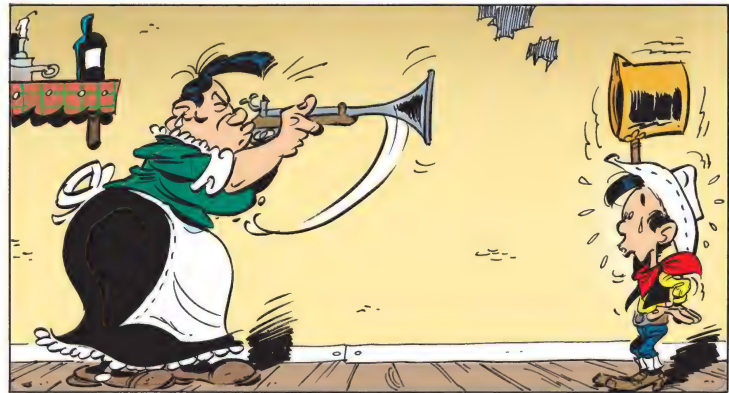
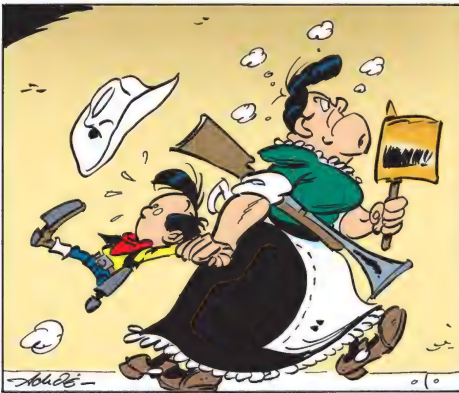
Would you believe? A woman, Annie Oakley, was the sharpest shooter in all the West. From 30 yards, she could split a playing card held edge-on in two!





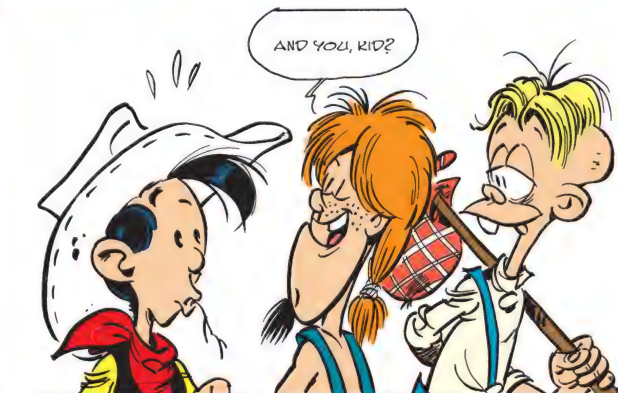
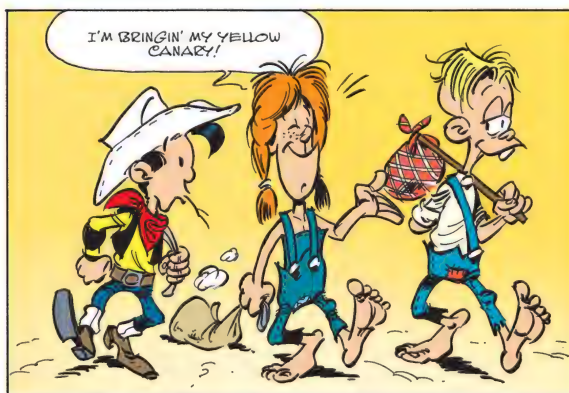
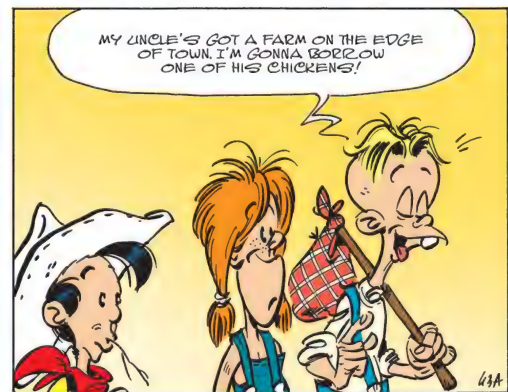
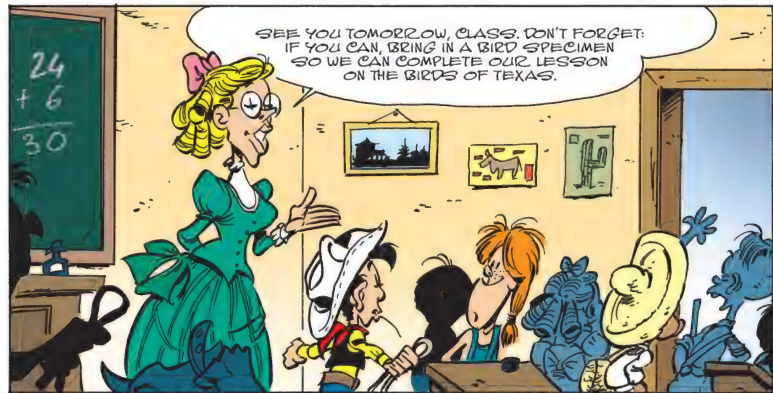
Would you believe? The railways were crucial to the conquest of the West. On May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1869, the lines coming from the east and from the west were joined at Promontory Point, Utah. This transcontinental line was nearly 2000 miles long.





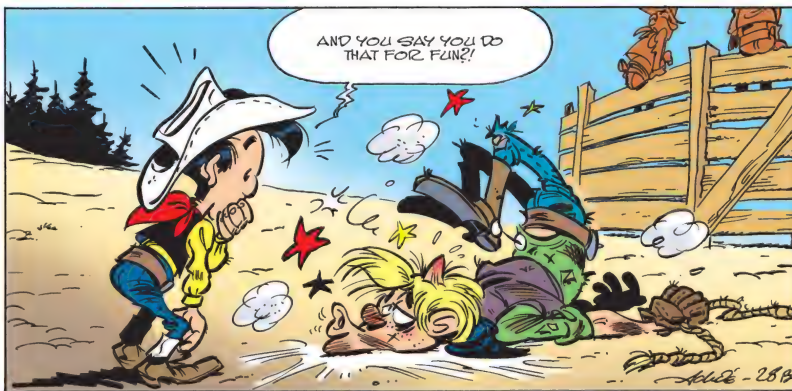
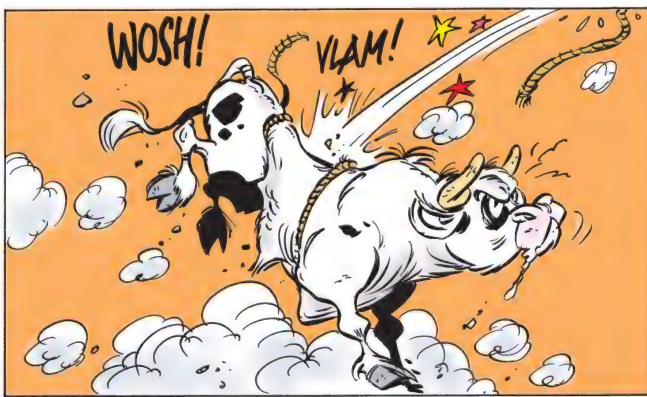
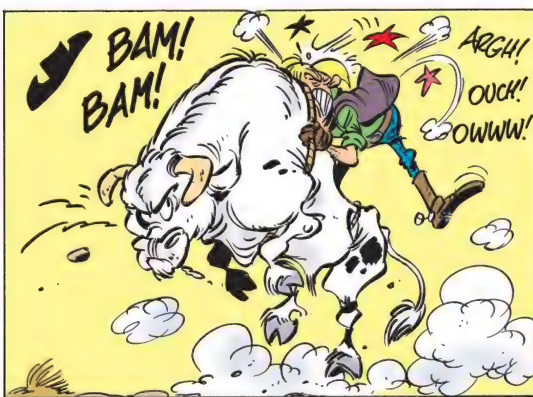
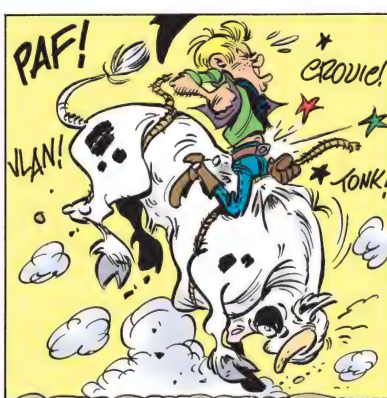
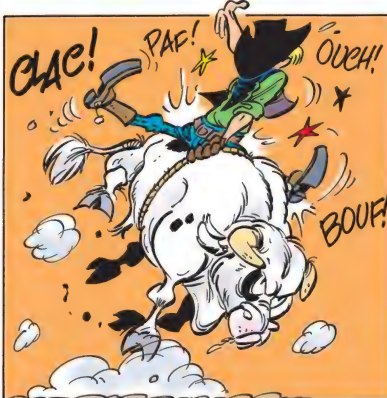
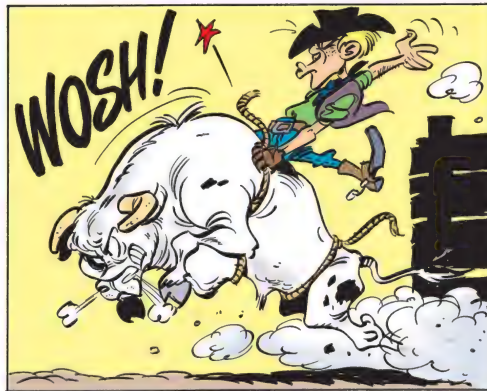
Would you believe? According to an old American saying, when a prospector found gold, he'd say that he'd "seen the elephant." If it was pink, that meant he was drunk!





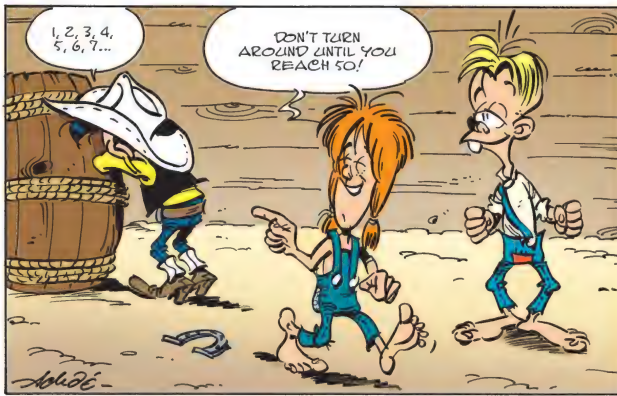
Would you believe? A poker cheat had a choice: he could either take a bullet between the eyes or he could be covered in tar and feathers then paraded around town on a railroad track. Guess which one he'd choose?





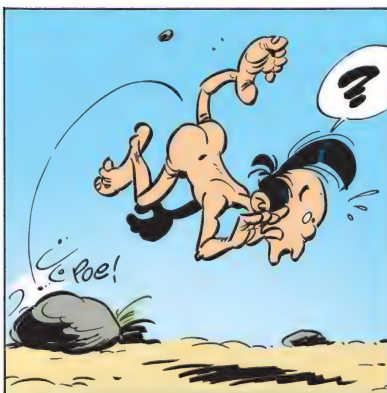
Would you believe? The majority of bulls used in rodeos are Brahman, a breed from India: 1750 lbs. of good meat, but a nasty disposition!





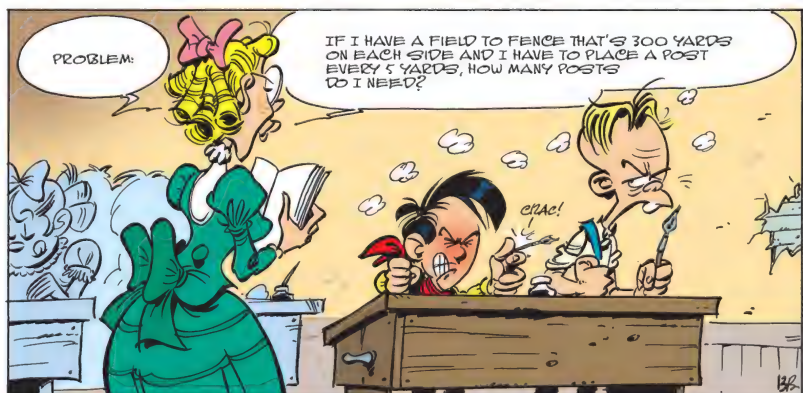
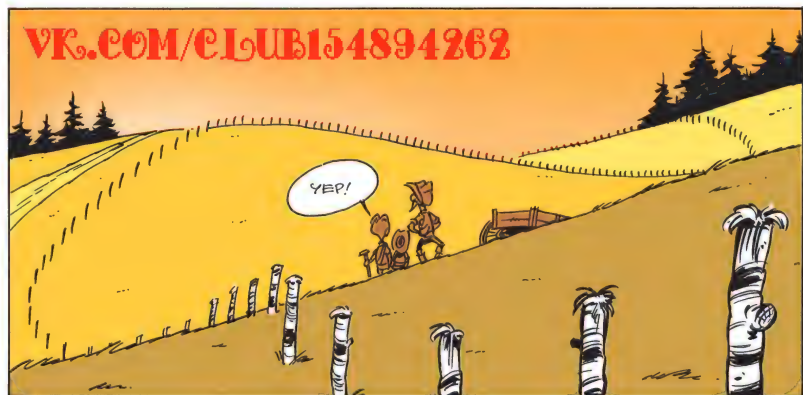
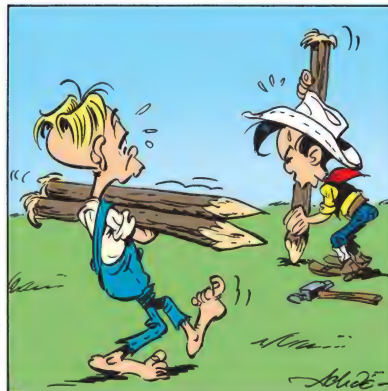
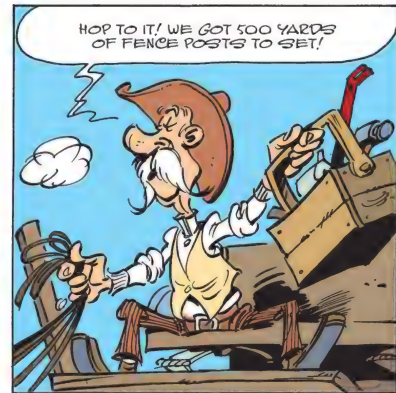
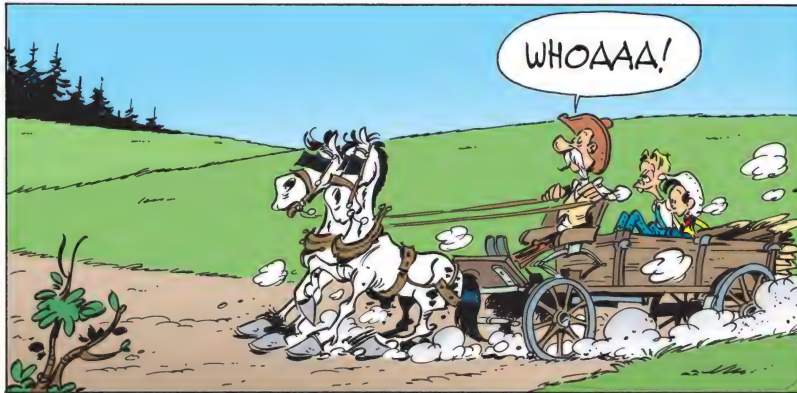
Would you believe? In the city of Tombstone, the two richest men were the gunsmith and the undertaker. I wonder why...





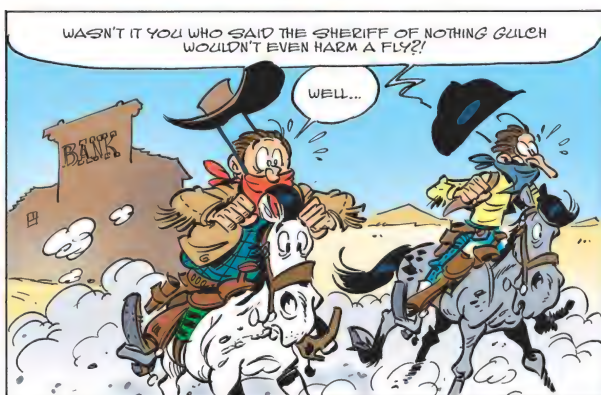
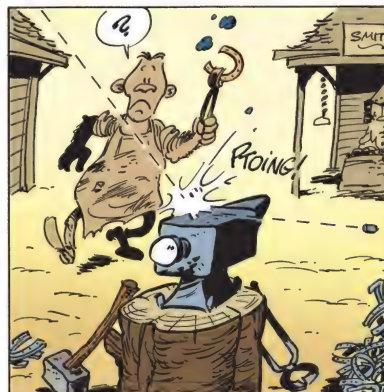
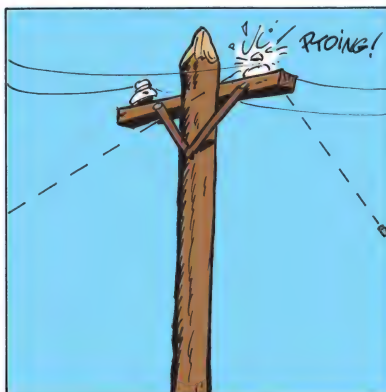
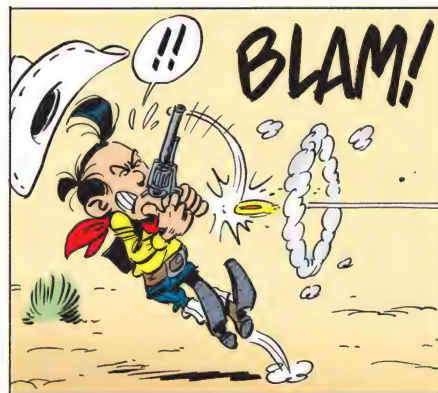
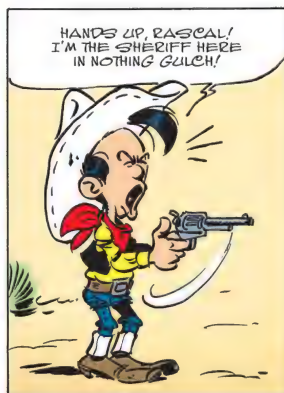
Would you believe? Certain towns had bath houses for cowboys. The cheapest ones only changed the bathwater once a day!





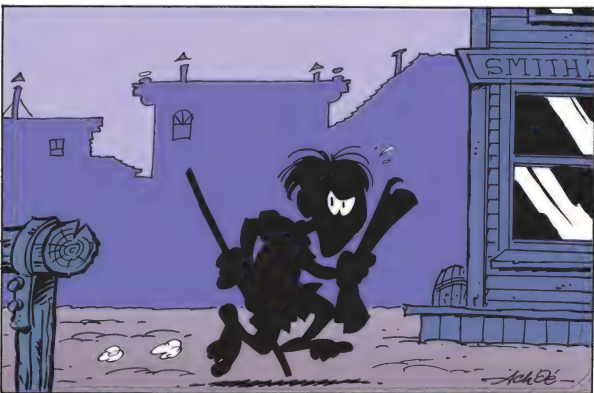
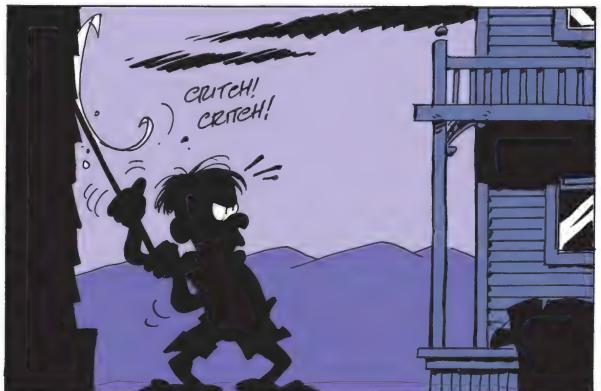
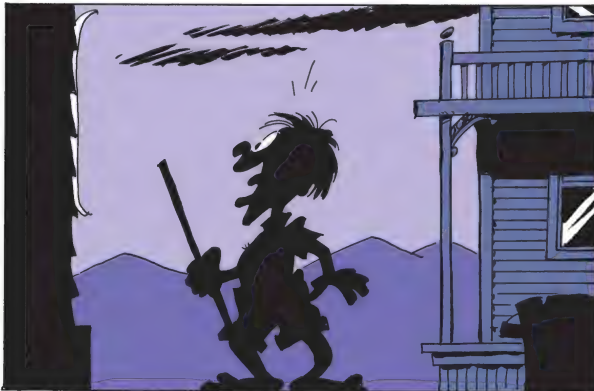
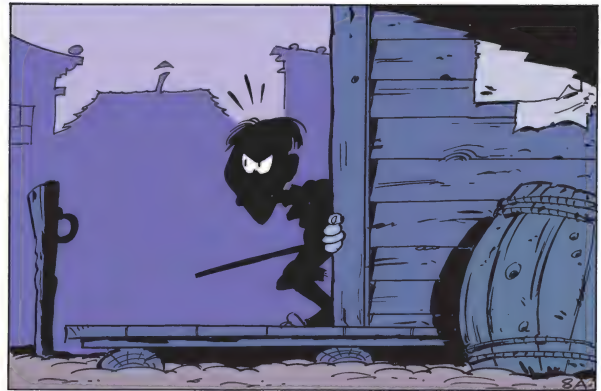
Would you believe? It wasn't uncommon to see 600 square mile ranches, i.e. ten times the surface area of Paris. Imagine how many posts you'd have to plant.





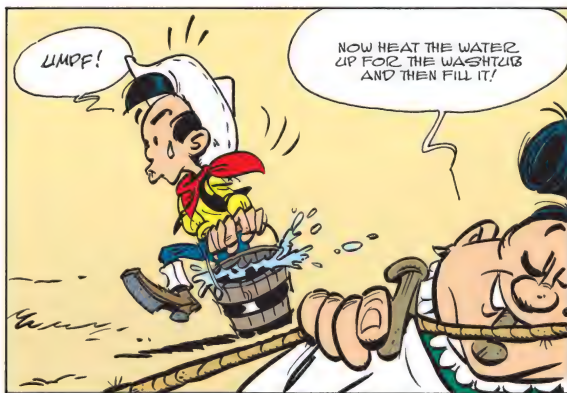
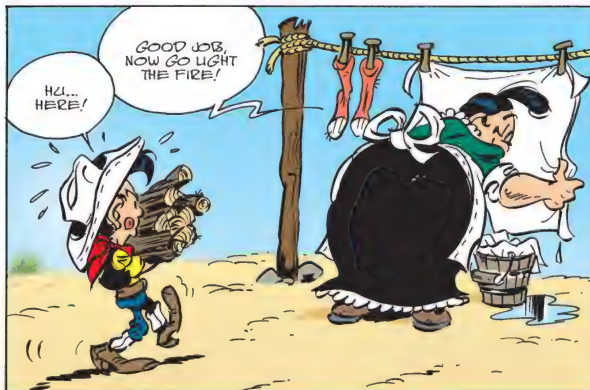
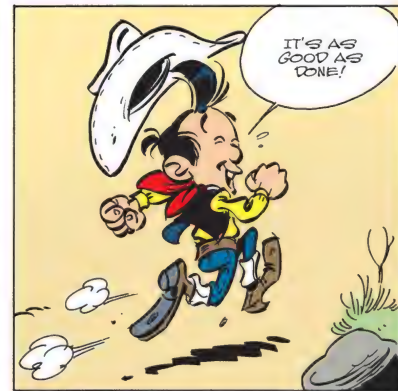
Would you believe? The wealth of the West's banks depended on what went on in town. It was more worthwhile to rob \$100,000 from the vaults of a mining or ranching town than \$10,000 from a farm town!





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Would you believe? A bathtub in a hotel in the West was a rare luxury. Even in the fanciest hotels, there was often a single tub for all the guests.





Would you believe? Vultures are the scavengers of the West: they feed off animal carcasses or the remains of unlucky explorers!

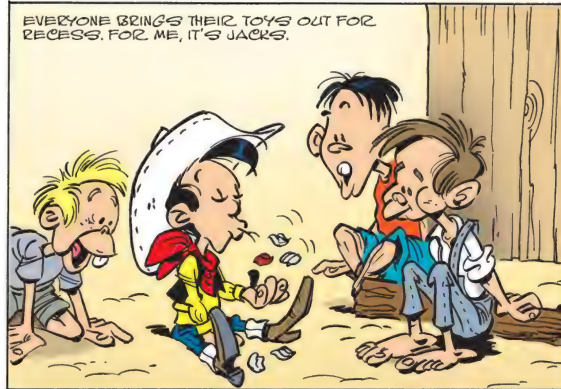




IN THE WEST, RECESS IS SACRED!



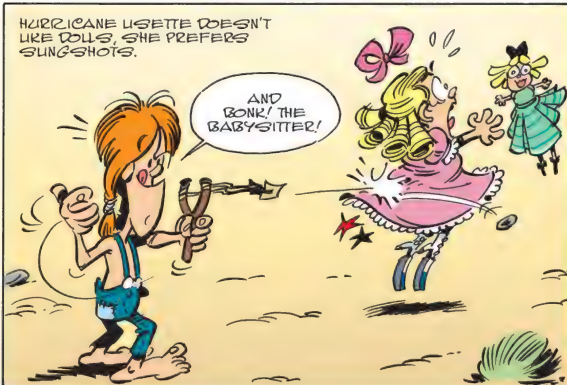
EVERYONE BRINGS THEIR TOYS OUT FOR RECESS. FOR ME, IT'S JACKS.



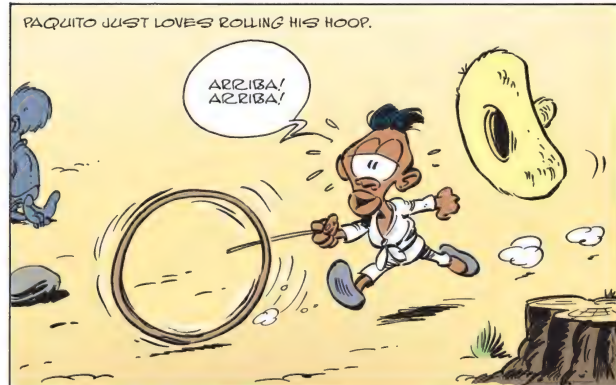
JOANNIE ALWAYS PLAYS WITH HER STICK GOLL THAT CAME ALL THE WAY FROM NEW YORK.



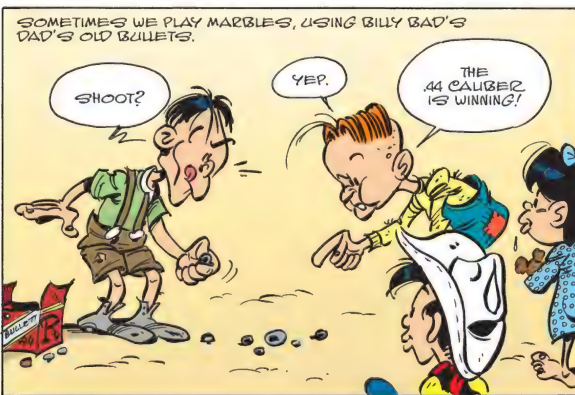
HURRICANE LISETTE DOESN'T LIKE ROLLS, SHE PREFERS SLINGSHOTS.



PAQUITO JUST LOVES ROLLING HIS HOOP.



SOMETIMES WE PLAY MARBLES, USING BILLY BAD'S DAD'S OLD BULLETS.



TODAY, DOPEY BROUGHT A NEW TOY.



IT'S CALLED PICK-UP STICKS.



AND IT'S A RIGHT DANGEROUS GAME!



Would you believe? Yep, it's true, even in the West, little boys played Cowboys and Indians!





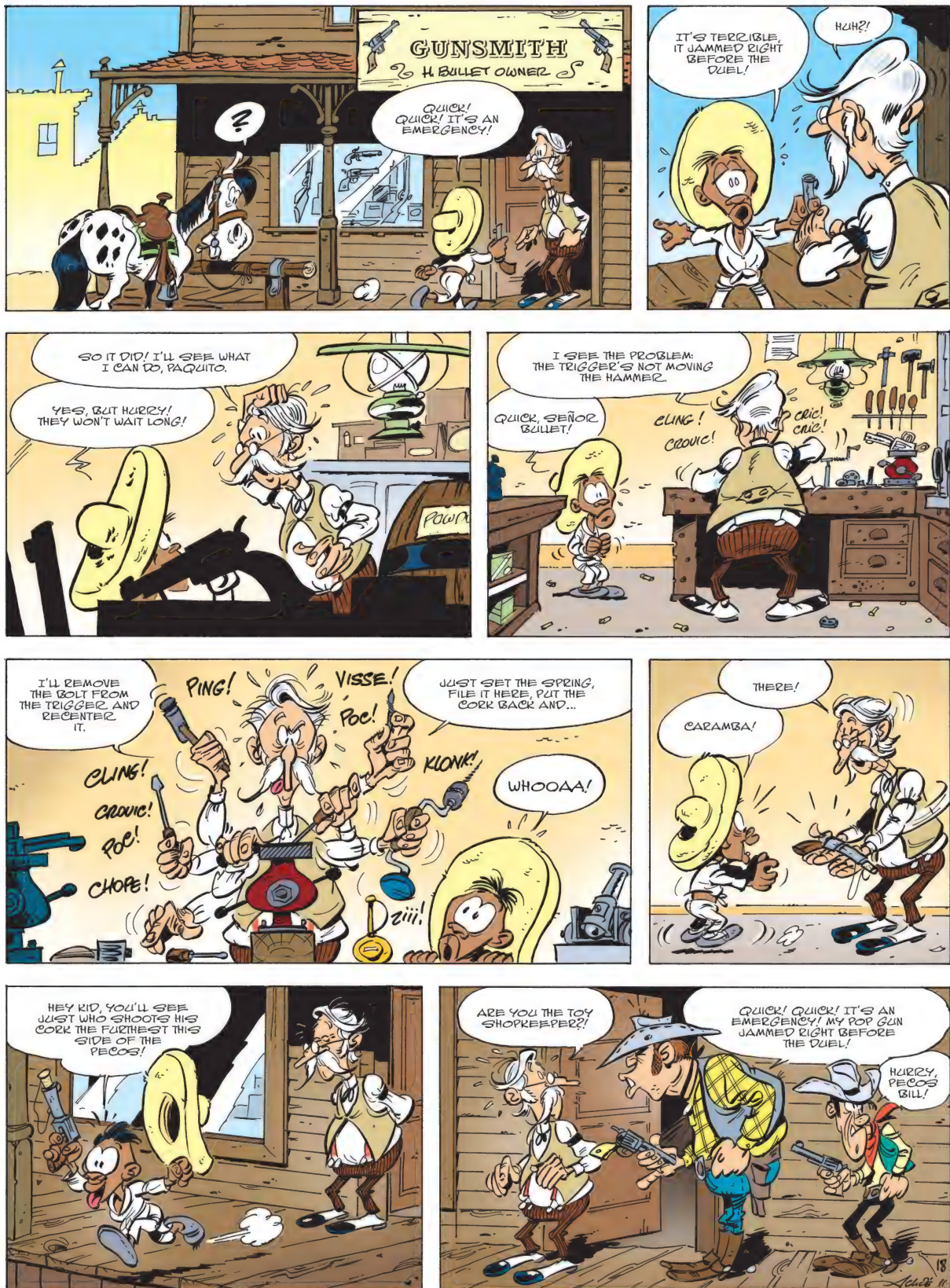
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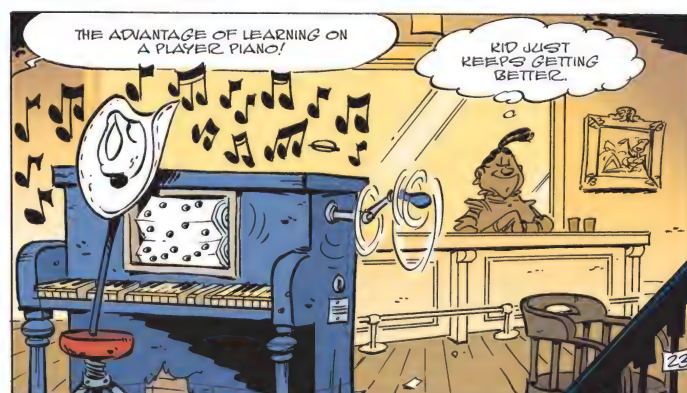
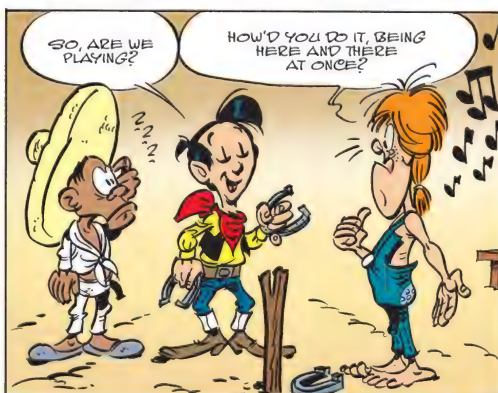
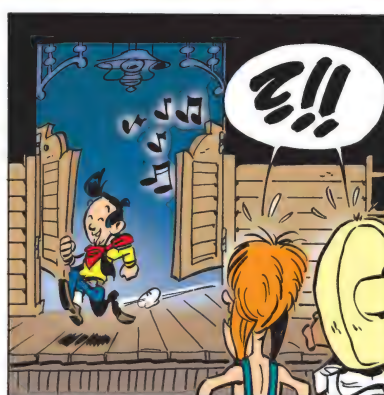
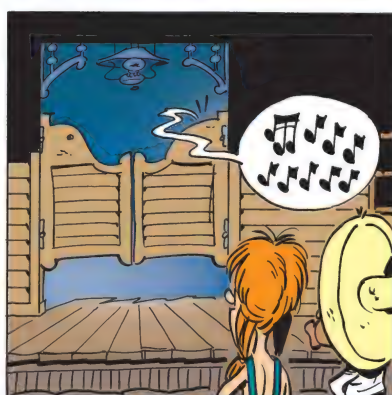
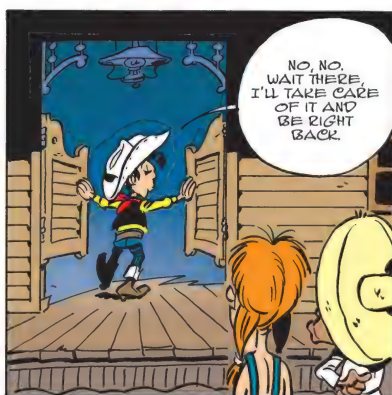
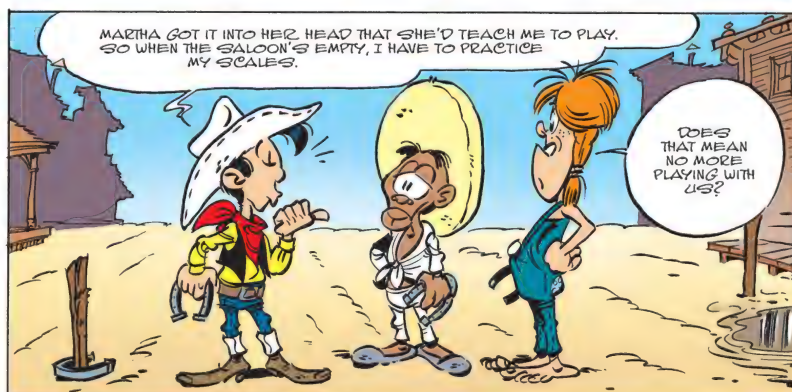
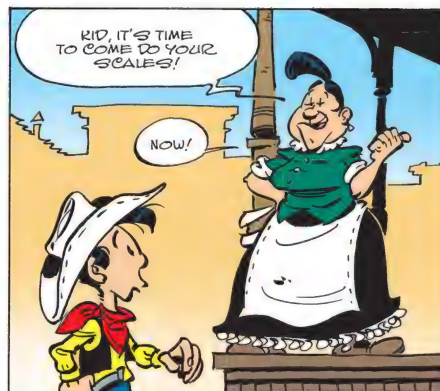
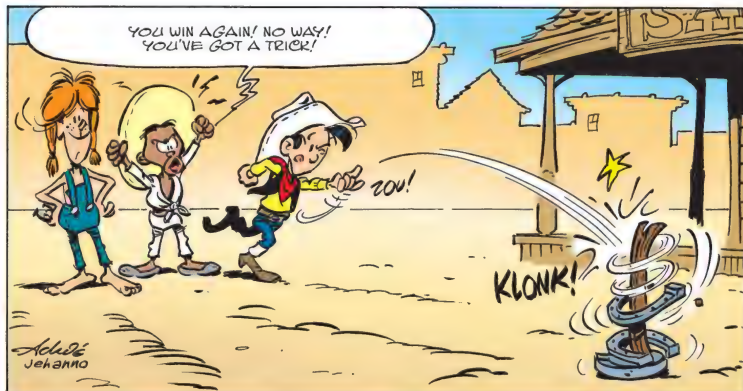
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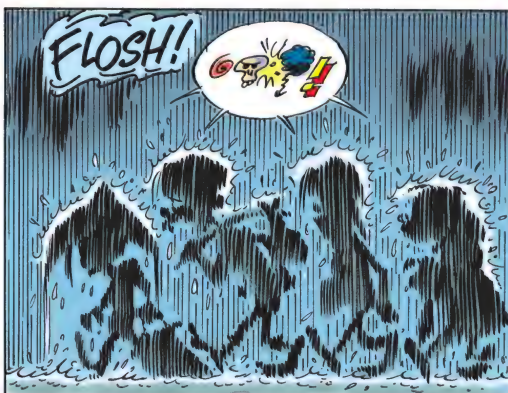
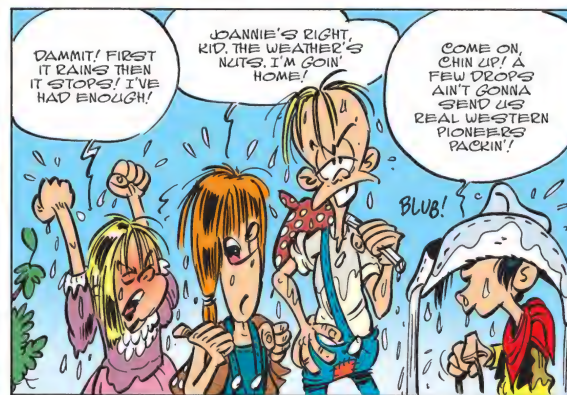
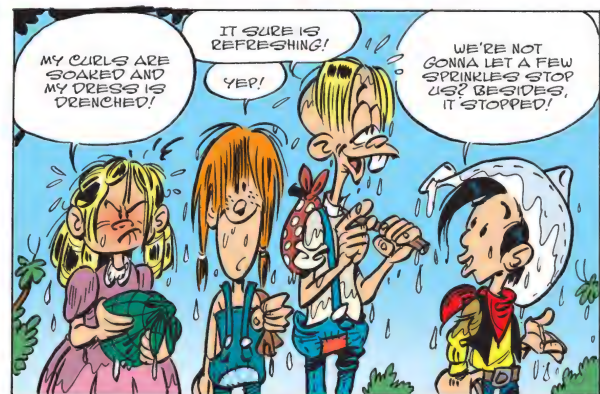
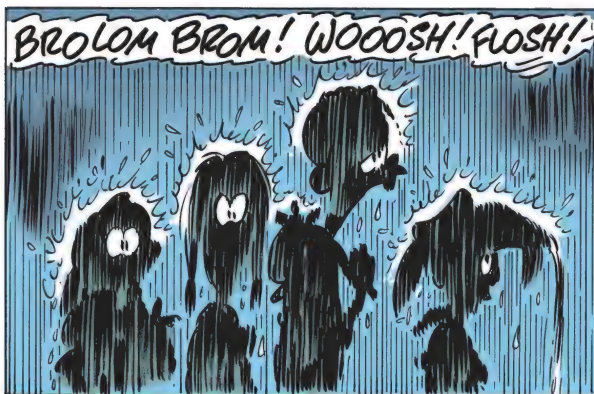
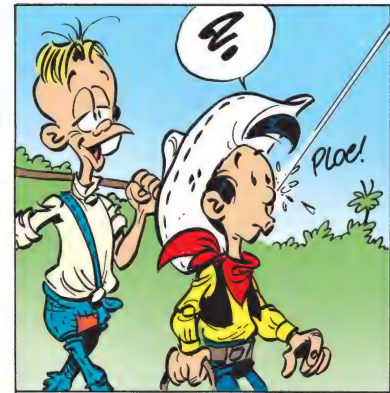
Would you believe? In 1873, Samuel Colt invented the six-shooter Peacemaker. Simple, solid, fast, and precise, it wreaked havoc in the West. What would the world have been if Mr. Colt had been a candy merchant instead? We wonder...





Would you believe? With no jukeboxes, all the good saloons had a piano and pianist. The player piano was recommended for those lively places where it was sometimes considered fun to shoot at the musician!





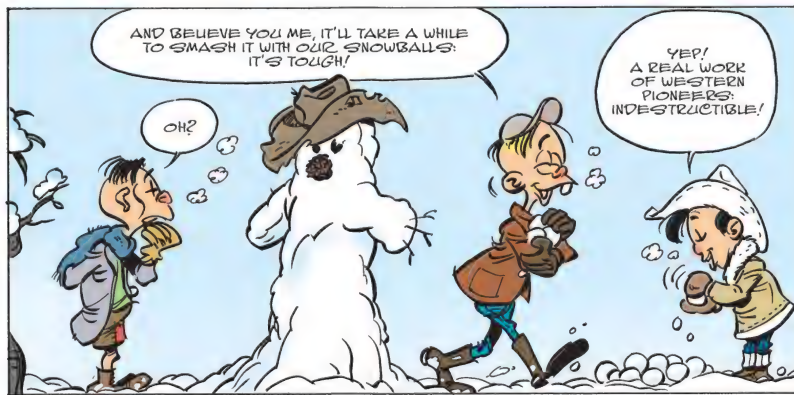
Would you believe? Dances were very important to the Native Americans. They had dances for rain, for war, for the sun, etc. They were, however, unfamiliar with tutus. Fortunately.





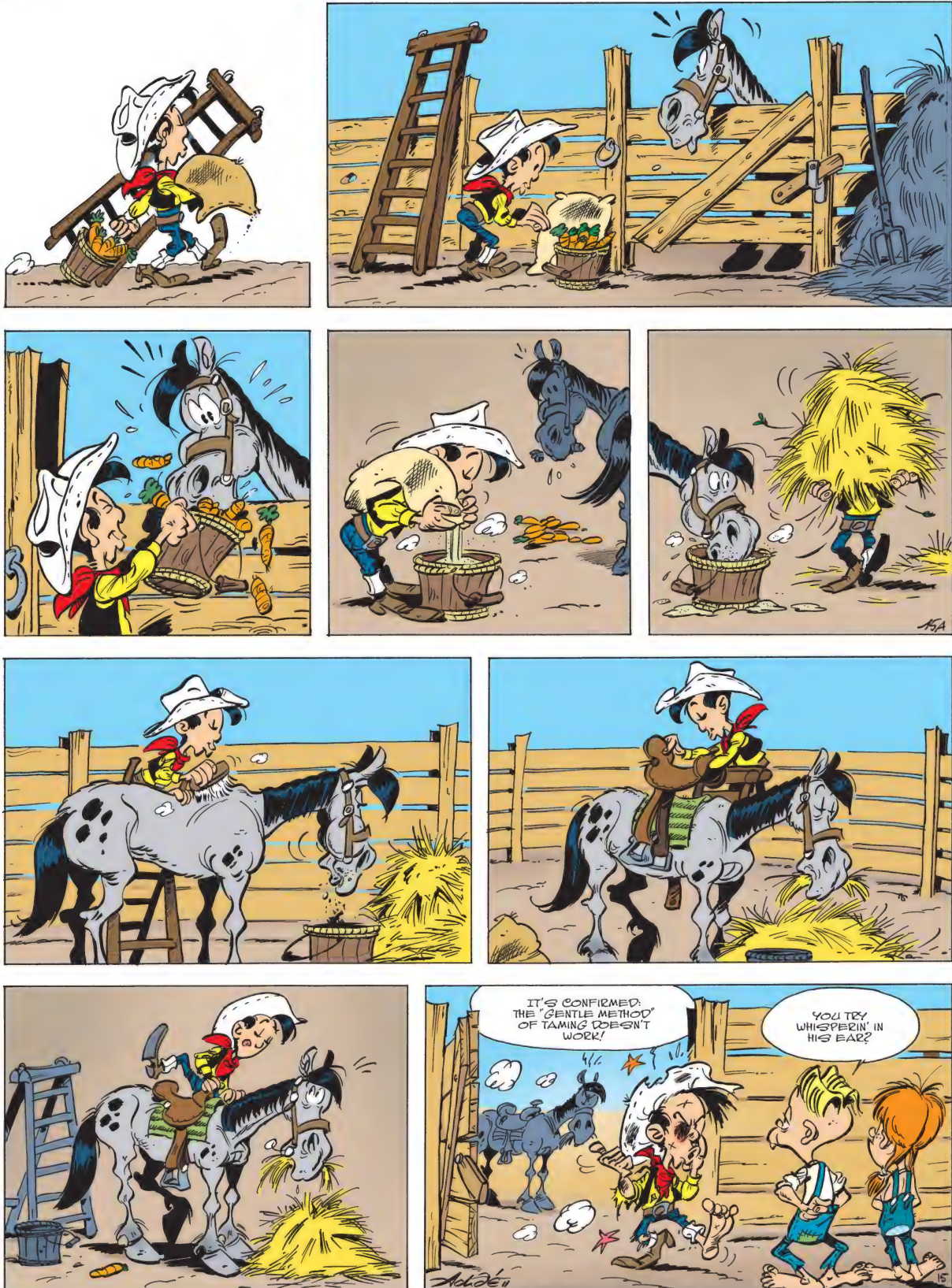
Would you believe? The grizzly is part of the brown bear family. It stands up to 10 feet tall and can weigh over 1600 lbs. It's not exactly a big teddy bear!





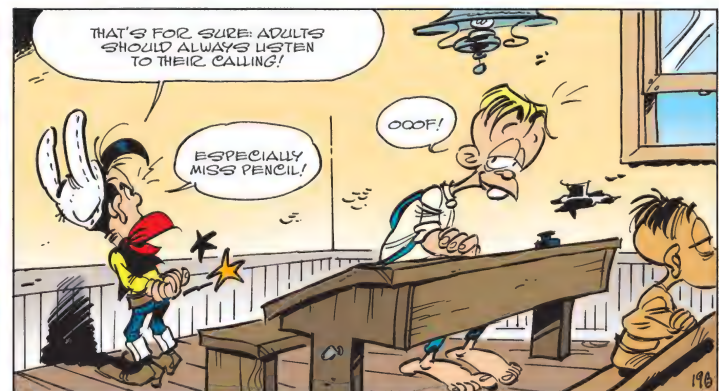
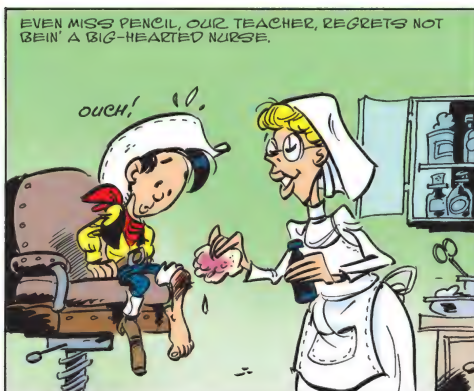
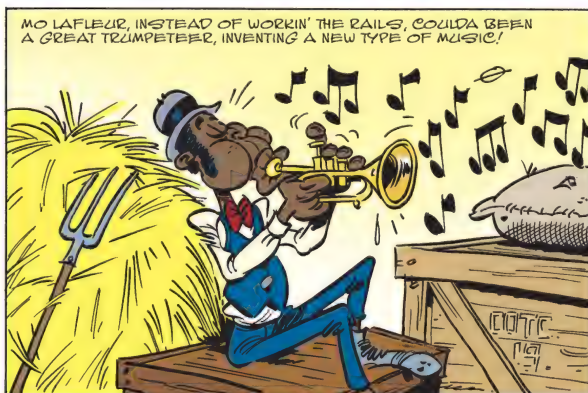
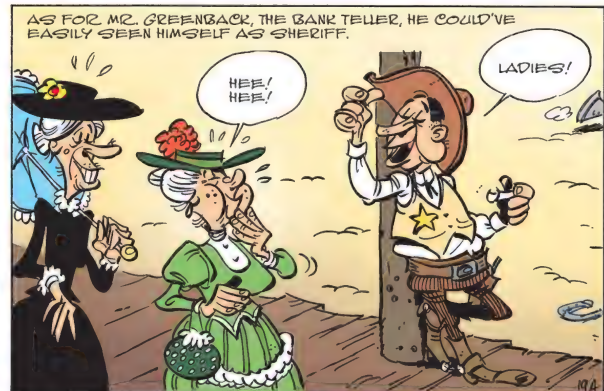
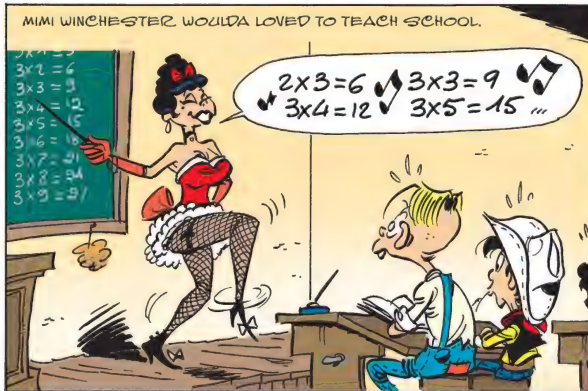
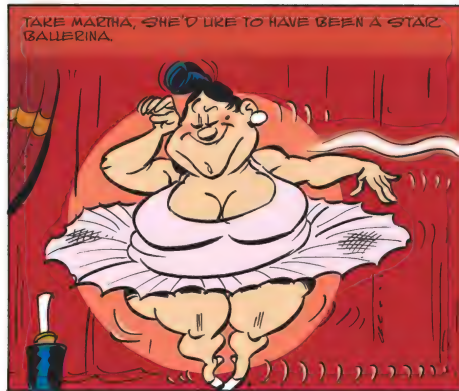
Would you believe? Contrary to common belief, it is often very cold out on the great plains of the Far West. During exceptionally cold winters, it wasn't uncommon to see livestock frozen in place.





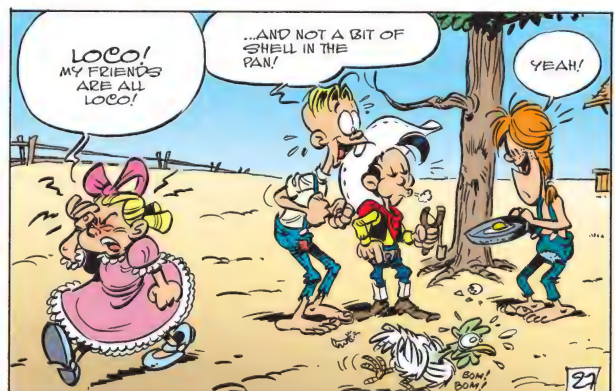
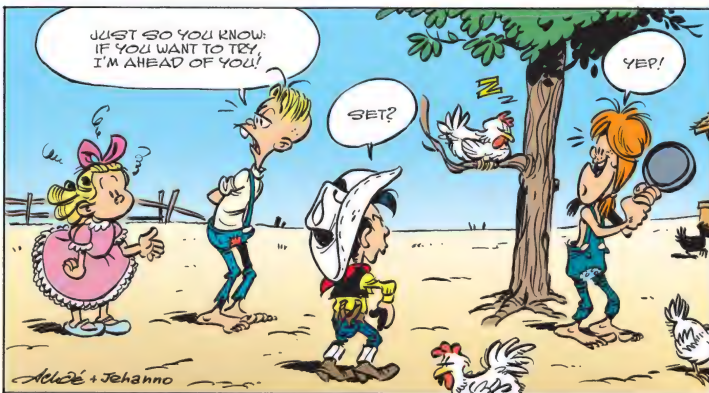
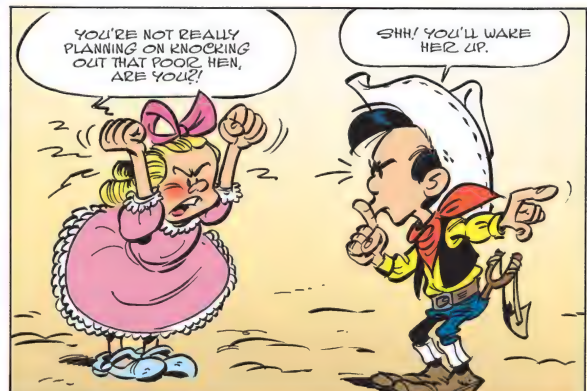
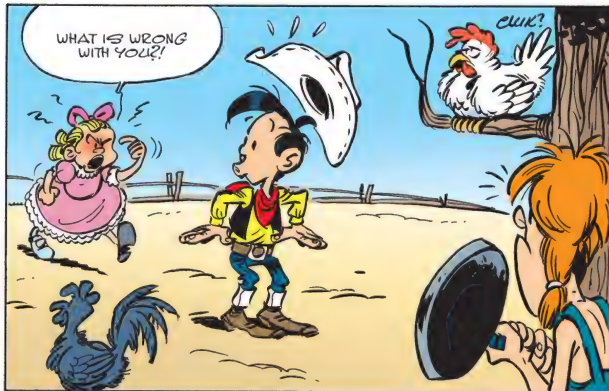
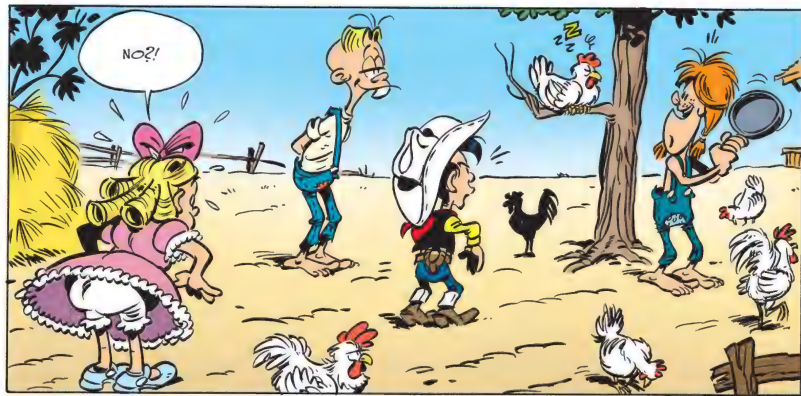
Would you believe? Cowboys tamed their horses in less than three days using a brutal but efficient method: a lasso, spurs, a saddle, and off to the rodeo!





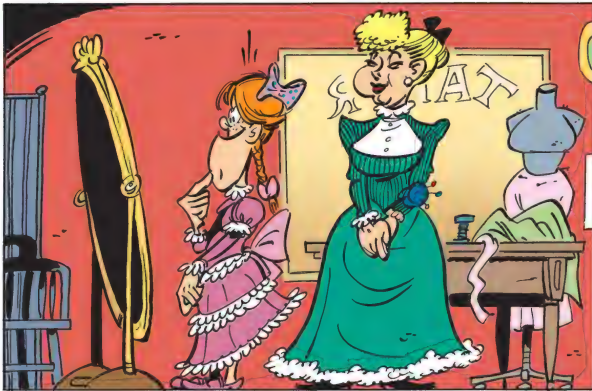
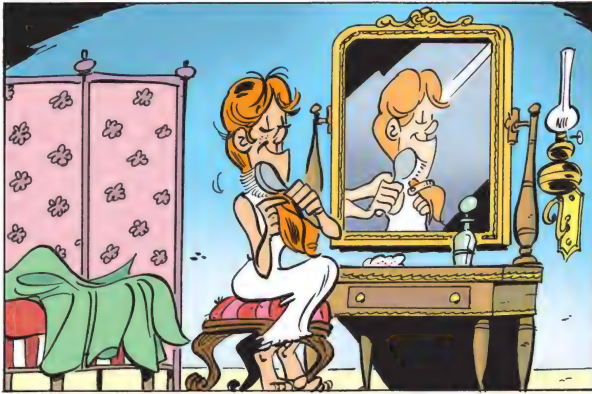
Would you believe? In the West, the blacksmith was an indispensable individual. He shod horses, made wagon wheels, and forged tools. Little wonder there are so many "Smiths" in the United States!





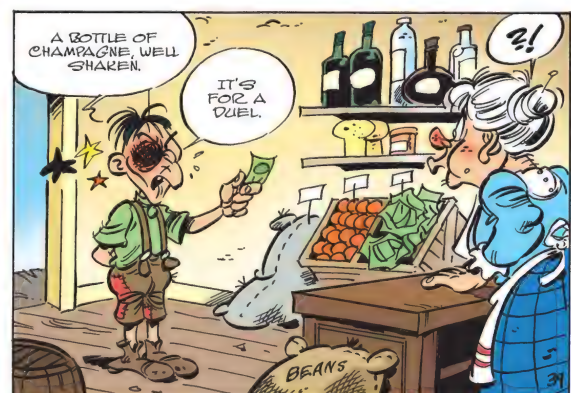
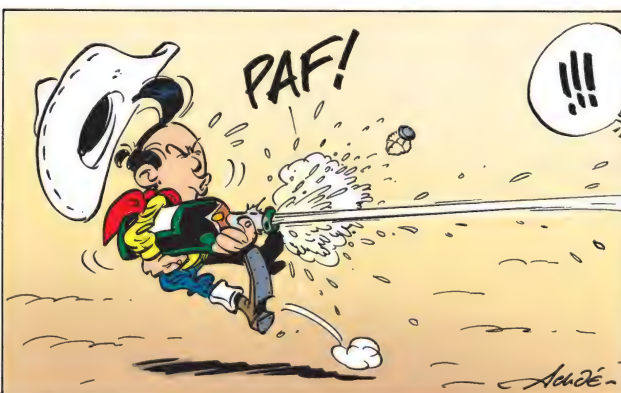
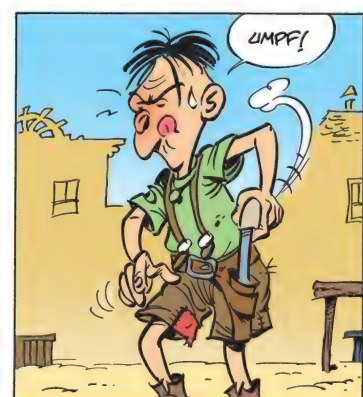
Would you believe? Americans always do things big. In Kentucky, fowl territory, they raise tens of millions of chickens each month!





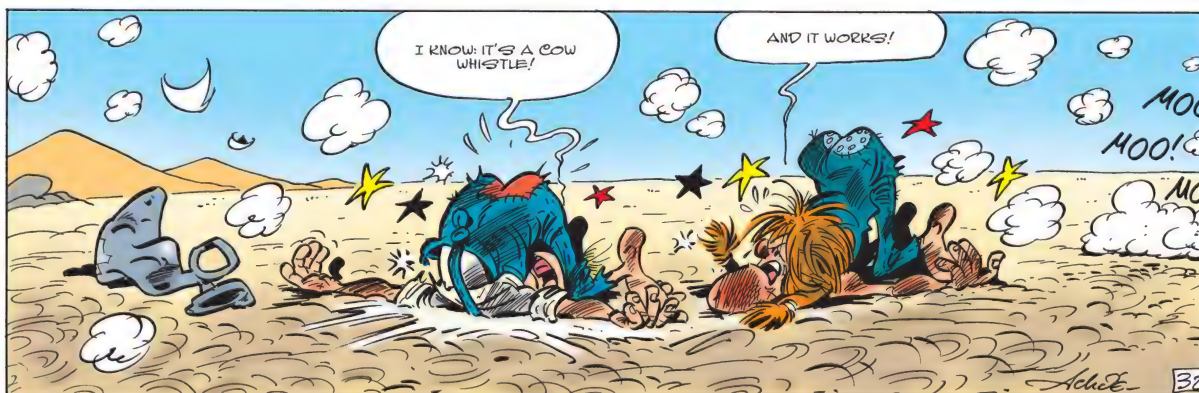
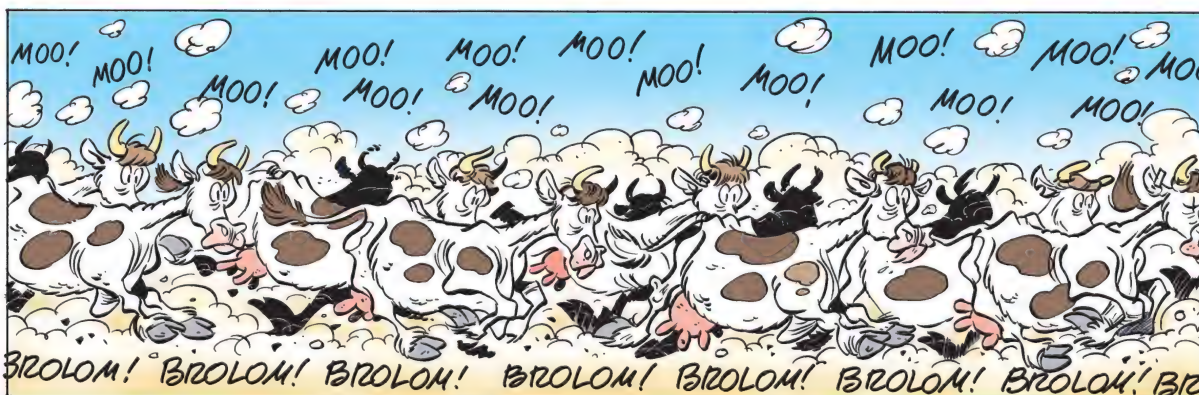
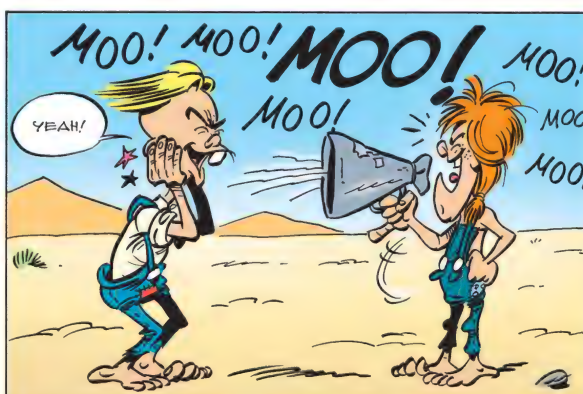
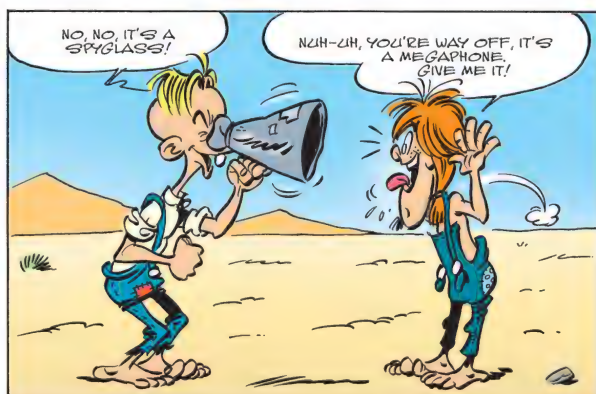
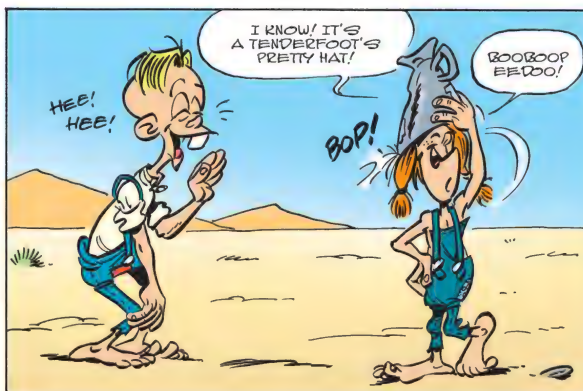
Would you believe? In the West, girls would go to school, cook, clean, mend, and, once in a while, reload daddy's rifle when the farm was under attack!





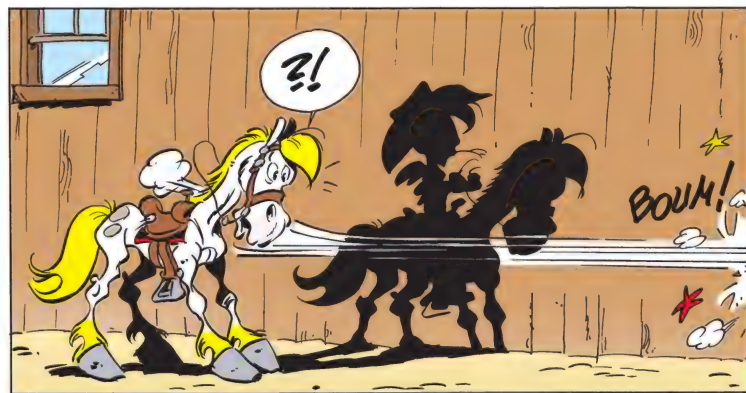
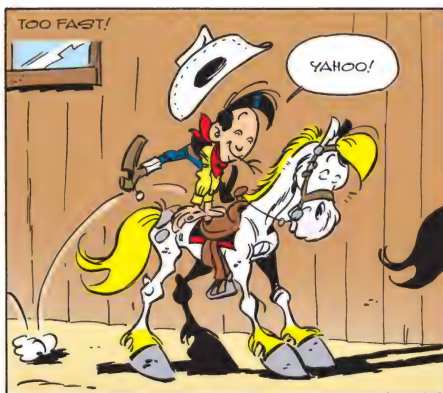
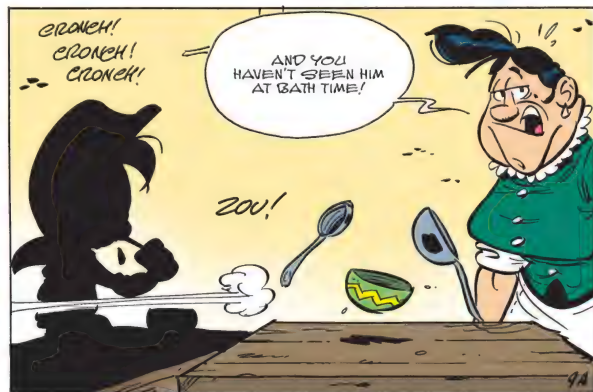
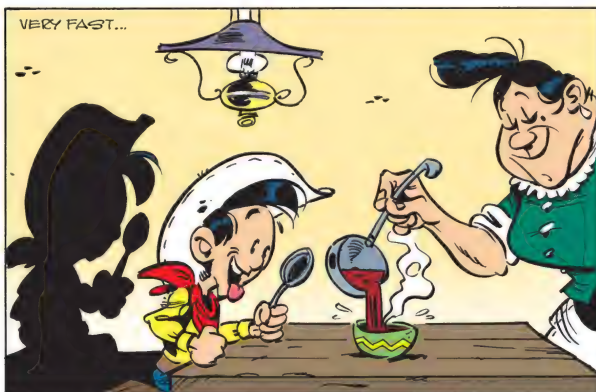
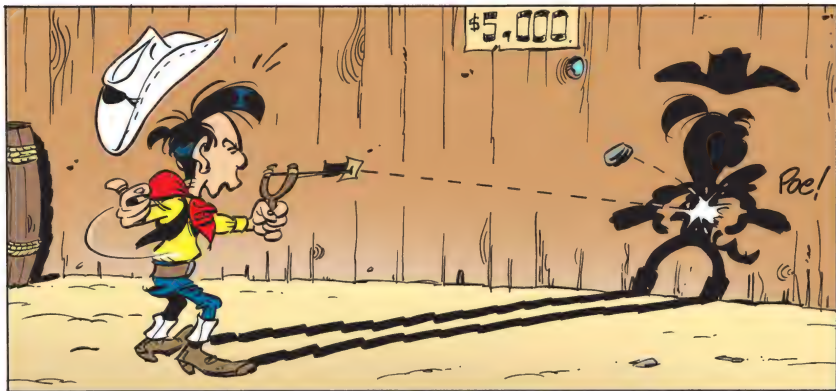
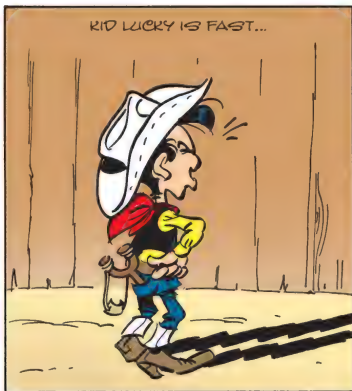
Would you believe? Duels were much more like orderly slaughter than honorable face-offs between gentlemen. They'd shoot at fewer than ten paces, often in the back, without worrying about stray bullets!





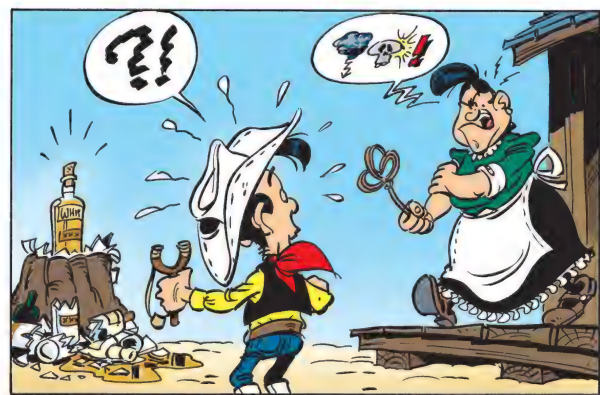
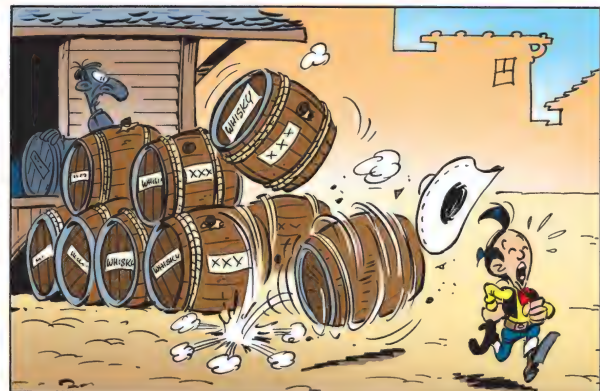
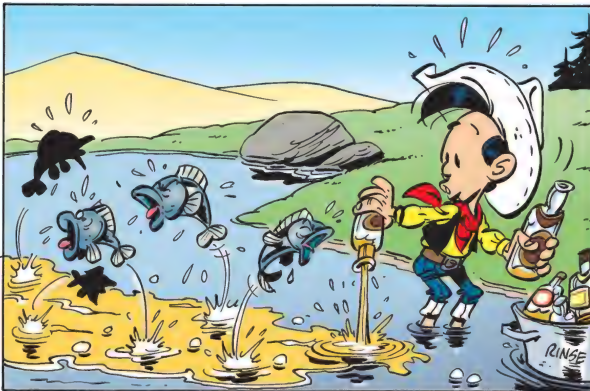
Would you believe? A whistle (or a call) is a little instrument that imitates the sound of the animal you want to attract. They exist for birds and animals killed for their fur. One that attracts luck hasn't been invented yet.





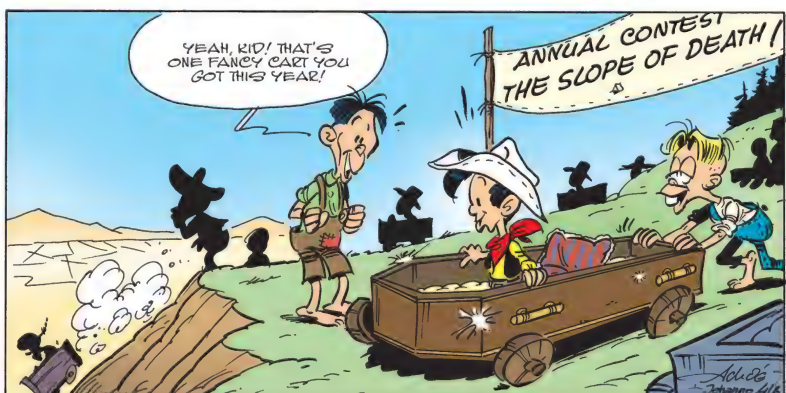
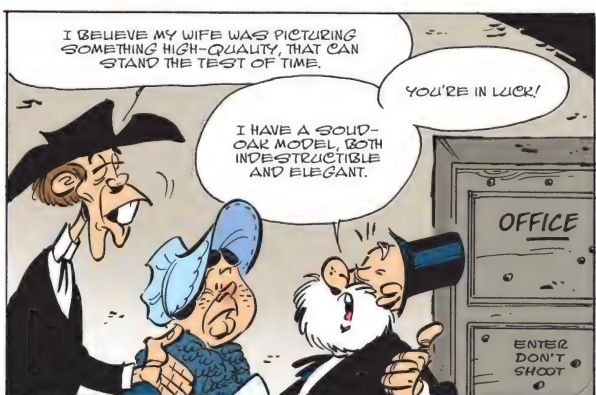
Would you believe? Education was a priority for pioneer families. Schools only closed during harvest time.





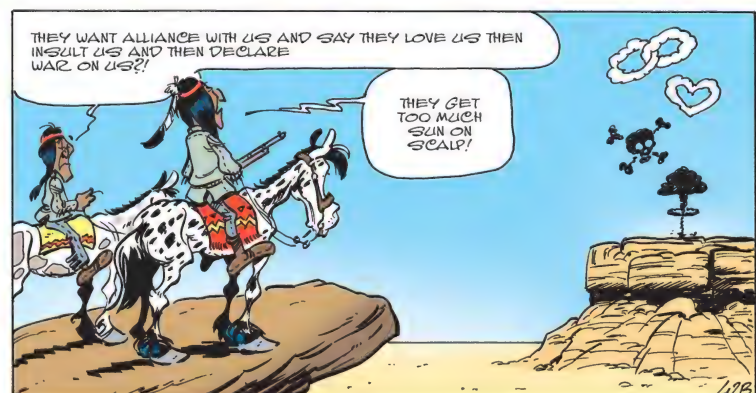
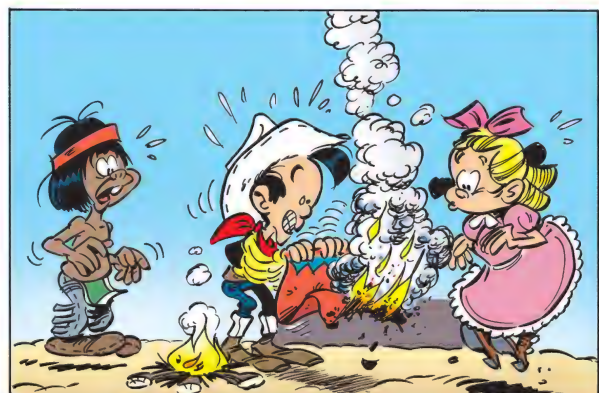
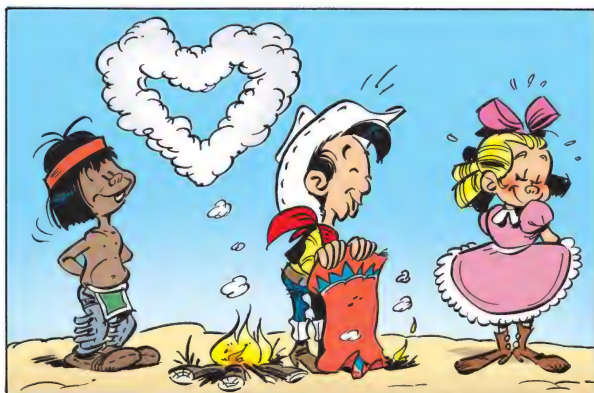
Would you believe? Whiskey is a distilled spirit made from barley. Sometimes, just for a laugh, people would add pepper or gunpowder.





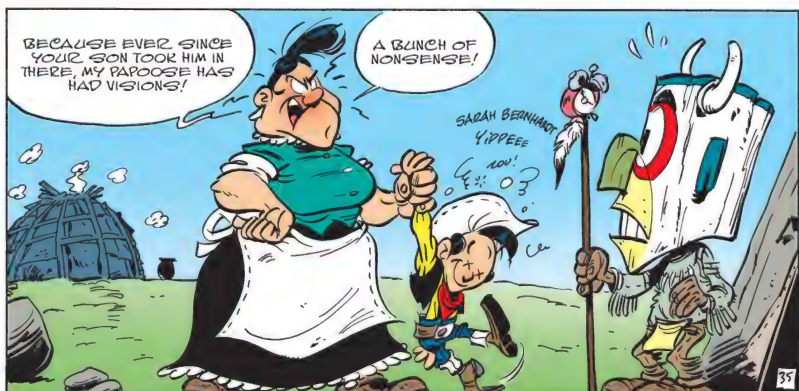
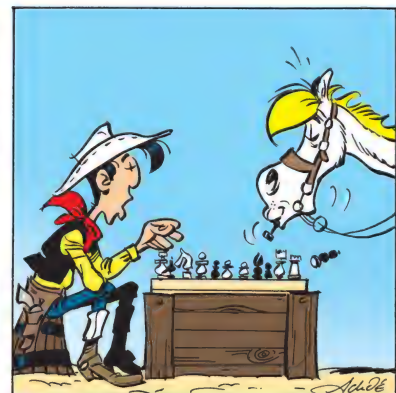
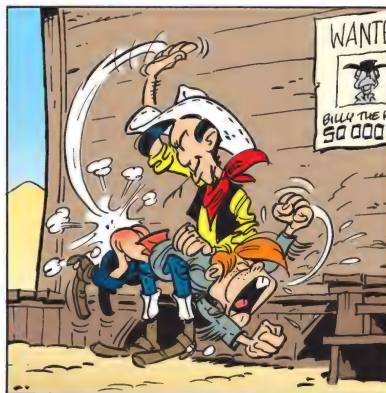
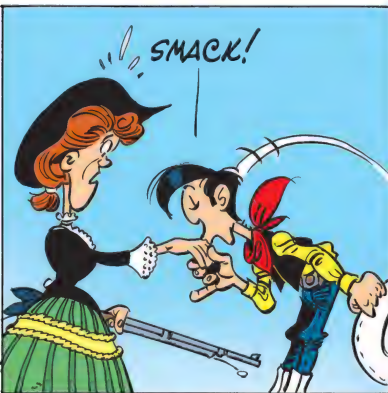
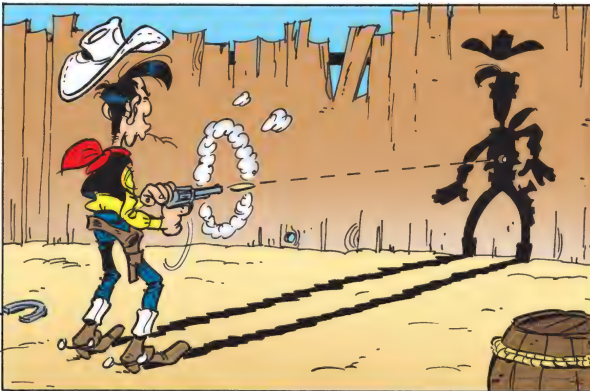
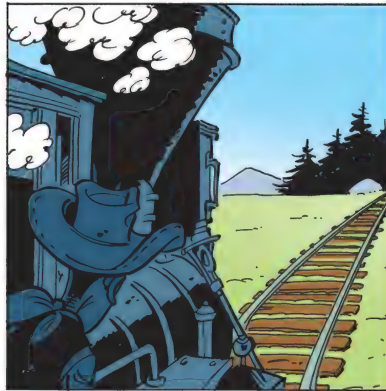
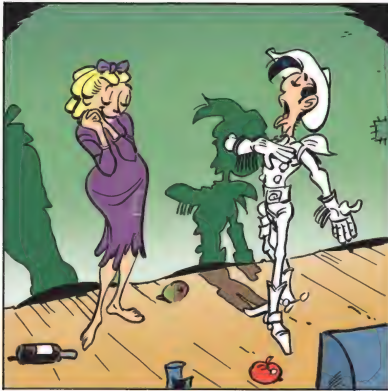
Would you believe? In French, the word for "undertaker" is "croque-mort," literally "corpse-biter" - to make sure the body was lifeless, they'd bite its toes! Look out for dirty feet!





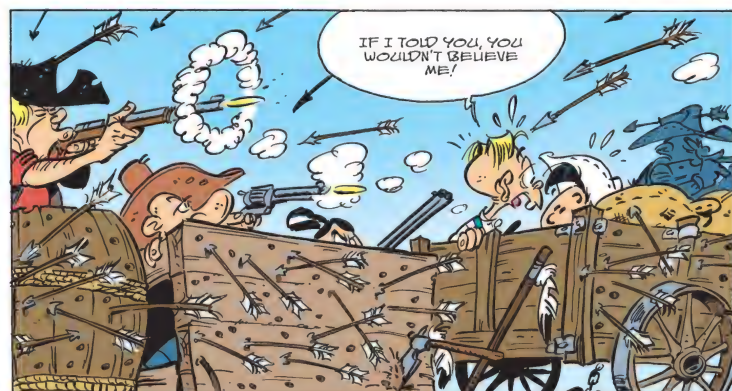
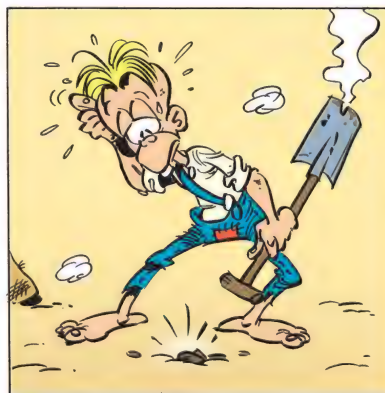
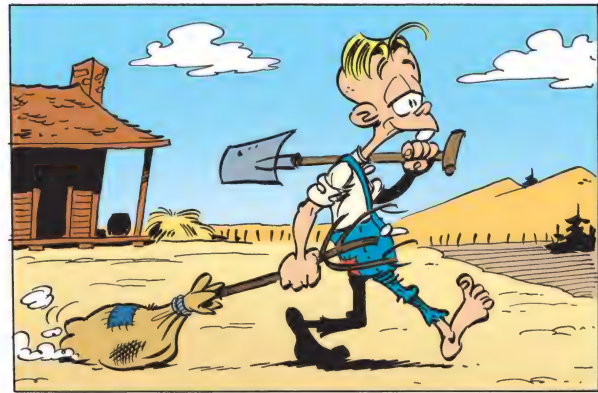
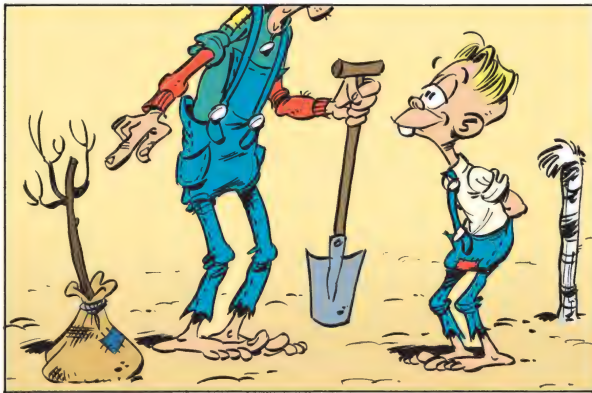
Would you believe? Smoke signals are the telephone's ancestor. Not very practical on windy days or during a fire.





Would you believe? The sweat lodge is like a sauna. For the Native Americans, the sweat lodge ceremony allowed them to communicate with spirits, all while restoring their health.





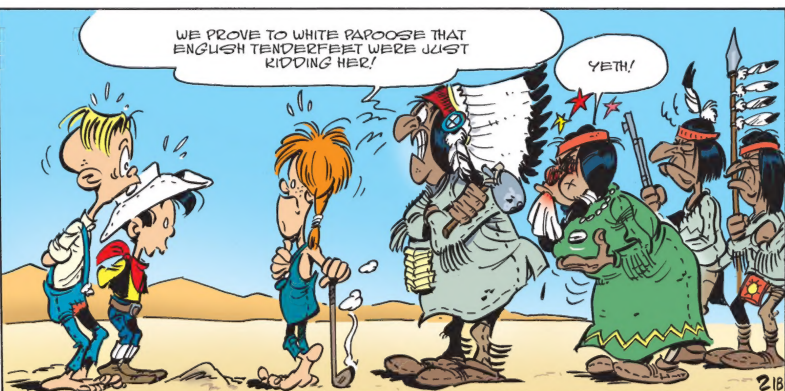
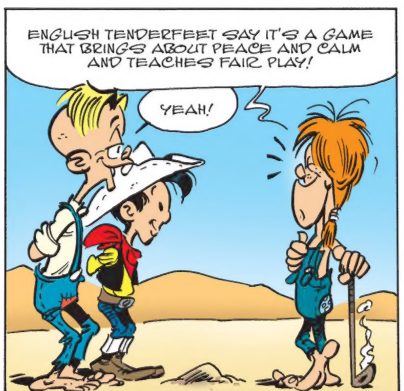
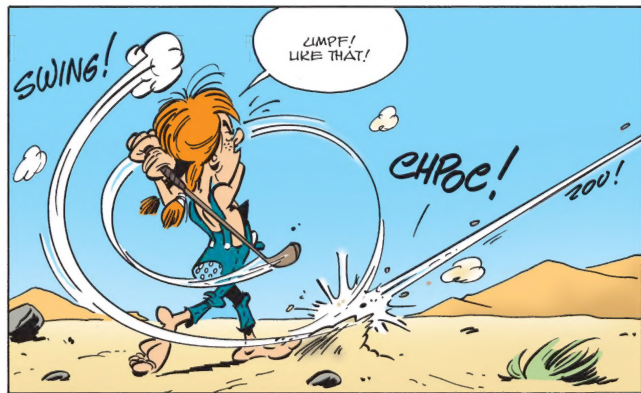
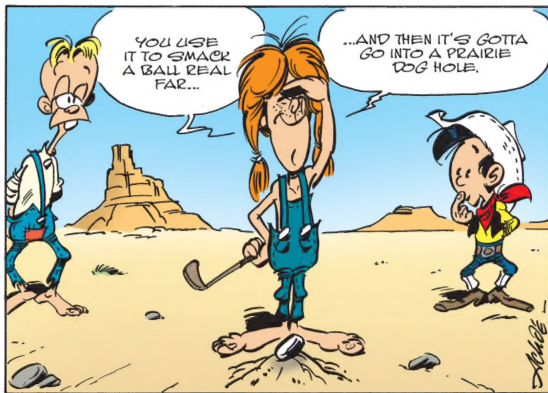
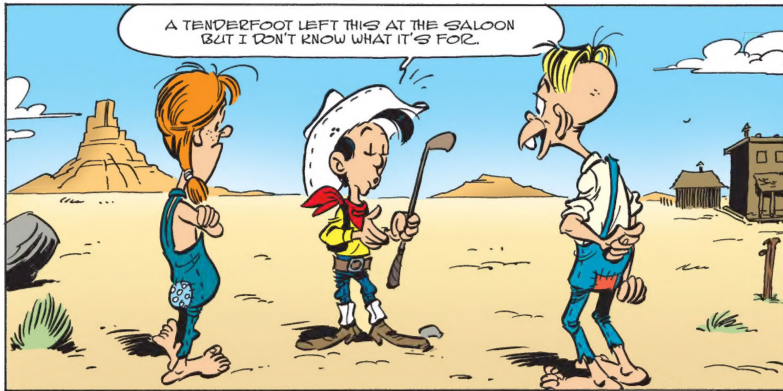
Would you believe? The Native American nations symbolically buried one or more tomahawks (battle axes) to guarantee peace and harmony amongst men... until the next war!





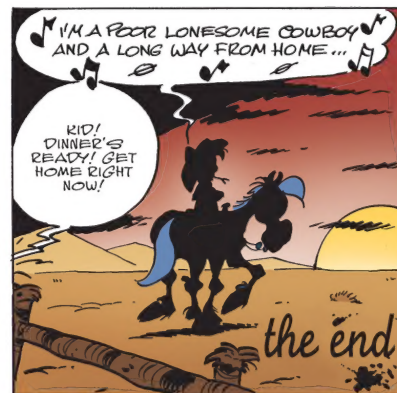
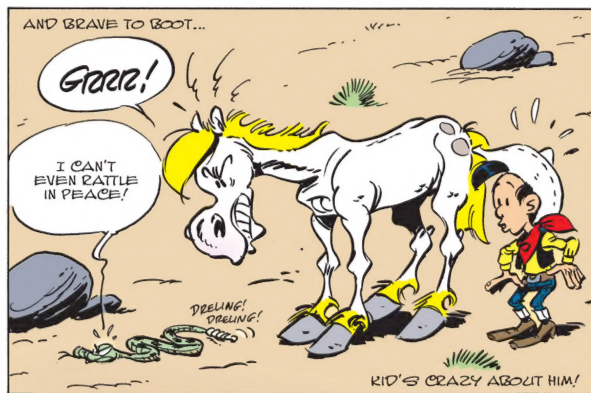
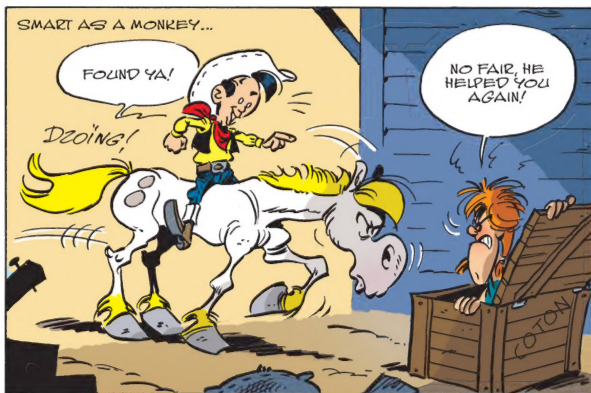
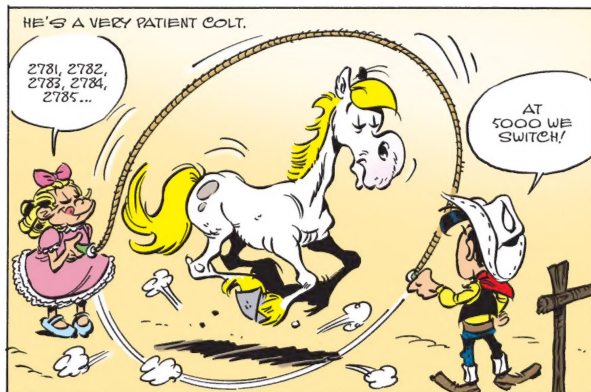
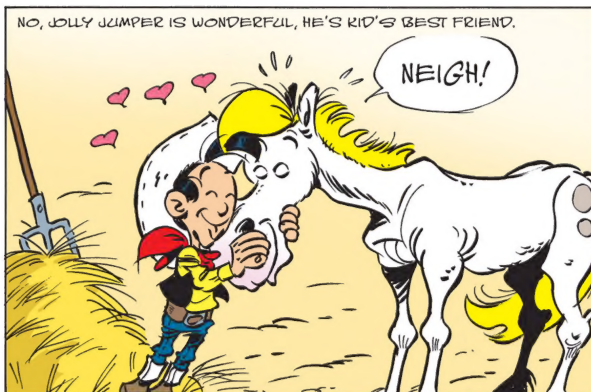
Would you believe? In saloons, poker was an activity that could bring in a lot of money, as long as you didn't play with your back to a mirror or window.





Would you believe? Even if the pioneers themselves were originally immigrants, newcomers to the West were foreigners to them. They called them names like "tenderfoot", "green horn," and "dude."





Would you believe? The rattlesnake, or rattler, has a rattle at the end of its tail to scare away intruders. The snake itself doesn't hear it because, like all snakes, it's deaf as a post.





### Morris, comics prodigy!

The father of Lucky Luke was born in 1923 in Courtrai, Belgium. After starting off in cartoon studios, he created Lucky Luke, his universe, and the series' main characters. Their adventures first appeared in *L'Almanach de Spirou* in 1947. He then spent several years criss-crossing the United States with his friends André Franquin and Joseph Gillain, as well as the stars of the satirical *Mad Magazine*, Kurtzman, Davis, and Wood. During this time *Lucky Luke* was quickly becoming one of the must-reads of French comics thanks to the simple, expressive, and effective illustrations of its creator. Morris's gift for turning a phrase left us with such expressions as "the man who shoots faster than his shadow" and "the ninth art" (i.e. comics).

Ten albums later, he met the great René Goscinny who became his writer for nearly 40 volumes. Several more were to follow. The saga of the lone cowboy, as imagined by Morris, now comprises nearly 90 volumes. From boyhood he was consumed by a passion for cinema and animation, and he worked closely on the numerous adaptations of his work.

During production of the last 52 episodes of the cartoon, *The New Adventures of Lucky Luke*, Morris passed away on July 16th, 2001. He will remain one of comics' all-time greats. His characters and universe have become eternal.

It was impossible not to continue the adventures of Lucky Luke, both grown up and little! In *Kid Lucky*, Achdé tells the story of the birth of a legend, the education of a cowboy knee-high to a grasshopper who's always ready to discover the ways of the West, the essentials of proud pioneer life, and, most of all, how to have fun with his friends.

\*Caricature of Morris by the artist himself.



Thanks to those two gunners,  
Maëster and Jehanno,  
for lending a helping hand!

“Children find everything in nothing, men find nothing in everything.”  
Giacomo Leopardi (1798-1837)

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